

CATHOLIC YOUNG WRITER AWARD 2022

Sponsored by the Catholic Union Charitable Trust

2022 sees the 40th anniversary of the first visit of a Pope to Britain.

Pope John Paul II visited Britain in May 1982 and made history. He met the Queen at Buckingham Palace and celebrated Mass with vast crowds in London, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Coventry and York among other places.

Pope Francis canonised St John Paul II in 2014: he is now a saint of the Catholic Church. In this anniversary year, pupils at Catholic secondary schools across Britain are invited to study the teaching of this great Pope and to write about it.

**Prizes will be awarded for the best entries:
FIRST PRIZE £80 plus a selection of books
SECOND PRIZE £50 plus a selection of books
Plus a generous number of runner-up book prizes.**

Essay topic

THE EUCHARIST: - why it is so important

Resources: students should use the Scriptures, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and the writings of St John Paul among other resources.

Some specific suggestions are given overleaf.

TO THE TEACHER:

We are happy to accept individual entries, but the project is also designed so that it can be set for a class eg as homework following an RE lesson.

Entries will be returned and no record of names will be kept. Students must put the name and address of the school on their essays.

Entries can be hand-written or typed on a computer. We are unable to accept entries by email. We suggest a maximum of 4 sides of A4. Entries should be collected together and sent to:

**2022 Catholic Young Writer Award
Catholic Union Charitable Trust
St Maximilian Kolbe House, 63 Jeddo Road London W12 9EE
To arrive before May 30th 2022.**

The 2022 Catholic Young Writer Award is open to all Roman Catholics in Britain aged 11-16 and all pupils in years 8-12 at UK RC secondary schools.

Catholic Young Writer Award 2022

TO THE STUDENTS:

Write in your own words. Where you quote from the *Catechism* or some other document, give the reference. Remember to put your FULL NAME (including surname) in **BLOCK CAPITALS** on the front page, together with the FULL NAME AND POSTAL ADDRESS of your school.

THE EUCHARIST – why it is so important

- Begin your essay by writing out the words of Pope John Paul at Mass in Wales in 1982: ***Holy Communion is not ordinary food. It is the bread of eternal life. It is something more precious than gold or silver. It is worth more than anything you can imagine. For this sacred bread is the body and blood of Jesus.***
- Read the Scriptures: Matthew 14:24, Luke 22:19, John 6:22-59
- Read the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 1324 and onwards
- Read St John Paul's Encyclical letter *Ecclesia de Eucharistia* and follow up some of the Scriptural references.

Reading list

You may find the following books helpful:

G Weigel's life of St John Paul II : Witness to Hope (vol 1) and The End and the Beginning (vol 2).

My dear Young Friends: John Paul speaks to Teens St Mary's Press 2001

God, Father and Creator; Jesus, Son and Saviour; The Spirit, giver of Life and Love.

John Paul II, St Paul Books 1996

John Paul II for Dummies Trigillo et al. Wiley Publishing 2006

John Paul II: Man of Prayer Clare Anderson and Joanna Bogle, 2014

And on line:

<https://fjp2.com/saint-john-paul-ii-on-his-experience-of-the-eucharist/>

<https://archokc.org/news/st-john-paul-ii-and-the-eucharist>

https://www.azquotes.com/author/11414-Pope_John_Paul_II/tag/eucharist

2022 Catholic Young Writer Award
Catholic Union Charitable Trust
St Maximilian Kolbe House
63 Jeddo Road London W12 9EE

Deadline: May 30th 2022