

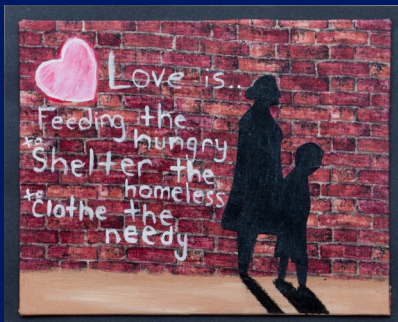
Catholic Campaign for Human Development

CREATING ON THE MARGINS

Contest Packet for Young Artists

2020 Contest Theme:

“More than a Roof” - St. John Paul II



“Dear young people, do not bury your talents.”
~ Pope Francis



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Catholic Campaign for Human Development

CREATING ON THE MARGINS

Any Young Person (grades 7-12)
from a School or Parish
can Participate. It's Easy!

2020 Contest Theme:
“More than a Roof”

- **Pray** with Pope Francis.
- **Learn** how unaffordable housing affects families and individuals.
- **Encounter** the stories of groups of low-income people responding to the crisis.
- **Create** a work of art.
- **Respond** to the reflection questions.
- **Submit** entries to your *local* contest.



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Pope Francis' Reflection

Introduction to the Prayer

Read the Gospel passage **Luke 2:1-7**, and **imagine yourself in the shoes of St. Joseph**. Then read the homily that Pope Francis gave during his first visit to the United States in September 2015. After delivering an important address to Congress, he didn't have a fancy lunch with Senators or Congresspersons. Instead, **he had lunch with hundreds of men and women experiencing homelessness**. It was a gesture that helped show us that that the Church should always be close with and care for those who are marginalized and often forgotten. During the lunch, he shared with the guests this homily:

Read Pope Francis' Homily

Joseph had to face some difficult situations in his life. One of them was the time when Mary was about to give birth, to have Jesus. The Bible tells us that, "while they were [in Bethlehem], the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn" (Lk 2:6-7).

The Bible is very clear about this: there was no room for them. I can imagine Joseph, with his wife about to have a child, with no shelter, no home, no place to stay. The Son of God came into this world as a homeless person. The Son of God knew what it was to start life without a roof over his head. We can imagine what Joseph must have been thinking. How is it that the Son of God has no home? Why are we homeless, why don't we have housing? These are questions which many of you may ask, and do ask, every day. Like Saint Joseph, you may ask: Why are we homeless, without a place to live? And those of us who do have a home, a roof over our heads, would also do well to ask: Why do these, our brothers and sisters, have no place to live? Why are these brothers and sisters of ours homeless?

Joseph's questions are timely even today; they accompany all those who throughout history have been, and are, homeless. Joseph was someone who asked questions. But first and foremost, he was a man of faith. Faith gave Joseph the power to find light just at the moment when everything seemed dark. Faith sustained him amid the troubles of life. Thanks to faith, Joseph was able to press forward when everything seemed to be holding him back.

In the face of unjust and painful situations, faith brings us the light which scatters the darkness. As it did for Joseph, faith makes us open to the quiet presence of God at every moment of our lives, in every person and in every situation. God is present in every one of you, in each one of us. I want to be very clear. There is no social or moral justification, no justification whatsoever, for lack of housing. There are many unjust situations, but we know that God is suffering with us, experiencing them at our side. He does not abandon us.

Reflect on these Questions

Now consider the following questions to share with another person or for silent reflection:

1. When you imagined yourself in the shoes of St. Joseph, how did you feel?
2. Why is it important to remember that Jesus was born homeless?
3. How does our faith invite us to respond to those who are experiencing homelessness?

Excerpts from *Greetings of the Holy Father: Visit to the Charitable Center of St Patrick Parish and Meeting with the Homeless* © September 24, 2015, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission.



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Understanding and Addressing Poverty

Take the Spent Challenge

Poverty is a reality for many persons across the United States. The Spent Poverty Challenge is an online game that invites the user to make it through the month and support their family while only getting paid minimum wage. It can help us to see the interconnectedness of low wage jobs, healthcare, and affordable housing. **Take the challenge at PlaySpent.org.**

Learn about the connection between Poverty and Housing

Pope Saint John Paul II wrote, "A house is much more than a roof over one's head. It is a place where a person creates and lives out his or her life." Having shelter is a core human right and essential for all persons to thrive. **Yet across the United States, millions of families spend over half their income on housing costs, as rent has increased faster than wages.** Families are left with few resources for other necessities: food, utilities, transportation, and healthcare. They live paycheck to paycheck, unable to build up savings, and fearful of eviction and homelessness. In both rural and urban communities, affordable housing is becoming less and less available.

To make matters worse, cheaper housing options are often located farther from public transportation and employment opportunities, in segregated under-resourced neighborhoods, and in areas where schools underperform. Minority homeownership rates lag behind their white counterparts, and yet research shows that minorities face extra hurdles in getting approved for mortgages. Learn more at USCCB.org/racism with the **Racism and Housing** backgrounder.

Address the Crisis of Affordable Housing and Homelessness

In southeast Florida, a large portion households spend half of their monthly income on rent or mortgage. Many of these families have united with local faith communities to encourage construction of affordable housing units, renegotiating mortgages, and supporting local schools. Read their story at PovertyUSA.org/stories/creating-affordable-housing-florida.

Watch the Video: Two Feet of Love in Action

Our faith challenges us to alleviate poverty. There are two distinct but complementary ways to live out our faith. Charitable works meets human needs one person at a time. Working for social justice means addressing social structures that contribute to poverty. To follow Christ, it is necessary to walk with both feet of love in action—charitable works and social justice.



Watch the [Two Feet Video](#). Download a copy of the [Two Feet of Love in Action](#) handout. Then consider the differences between these two approaches and how we are personally called to respond to affordable housing and homelessness crisis. More info at USCCB.org/TwoFeet.



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Groups Addressing Unaffordable Housing

The **Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)** is the anti-poverty program of the Catholic bishops in the United States. It supports groups of low-income people to make change in their communities. Dozens of these groups work to promote affordable housing and prevent homelessness. **Select one group from each category and learn about them below:**

Homelessness

- **The Coalition on Homelessness**, in San Francisco CA, is a grassroots organization led by homeless people and supported by allies working to expand access to housing in San Francisco, to protect the rights of the poorest people in our society, and to create real solutions to homelessness. www.cohsf.org/
- **Elpis Enterprises**, in Saint Paul MN, operates three businesses to provide young people who are homeless with paid work experience and employment readiness training. They believe employment is the first step towards self-sufficiency and breaking the cycle of poverty. www.elpisenterprises.org
- **Hillsborough Organization for Progress and Equality (HOPE)**, in Tampa FL, is a community organization consisting of 23 multicultural and interfaith member congregations. They successfully advocated for a county program providing 2,800 homeless persons with their birth certificates and IDs, which are necessary to gain access to many programs and services. Now HOPE is organizing to encourage the county to establish a Hillsborough Affordable Housing Trust Fund with local dedicated public funding of \$10 million for affordable housing for working families and seniors. www.hillsboroughhope.org

Affordable Housing

- **The Metropolitan Tenants Organization (MTO)**, in Chicago IL, empowers renters through education and organizing to improve their living conditions, preserve housing, stabilize rent to prevent homelessness, and organize tenants to work together for housing justice. MTO works to make housing a human right. www.tenants-rights.org
- **The Texas Tenants' Union, Inc**, in Dallas TX, organizes tenants and provides the knowledge and leadership skills they need to solve their rental housing problems, preserve affordable housing, and win public policy improvements affecting low income renters. www.txtenants.org
- **Diamond State Community Land Trust**, in Dover DE, is a community-based organization creating a growing inventory of permanently affordable homes, encouraging minority home ownership, and serving as steward of the resources invested in those homes and the people who dwell in them. www.DiamondStateCLT.org
- **My Front Door**, in Cheyenne WY, empowers working families to achieve financial freedom through affordable housing options, financial planning, and participant goal setting and follow-up. They have a proven track record and are well-known advocates for supplying families with the opportunity of home ownership and providing a path out of poverty. www.myfrontdoor.org/



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Create a Work of Art and Submit it!

Now that you have learned how we can respond to the crisis of unaffordable housing and homelessness, **make a creative work exploring the theme “More than a Roof.”** Examples of creative works eligible for the contest include: **paintings, poems, videos, photos, PowerPoint presentations, drawings, dramas, sculptures, stories, and songs**.**

Next fill out the **official entry form** on the following pages, including responding to the four short essay questions. Your contest entry will be assessed by **both your essay responses and your creative work.** Please note that the **signature of a parent or guardian is required.**

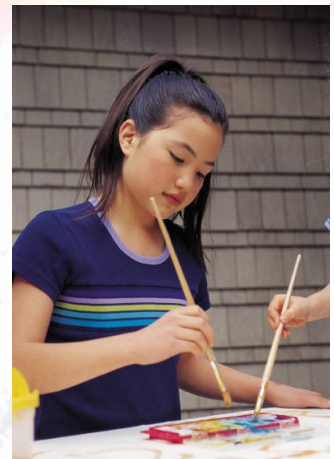
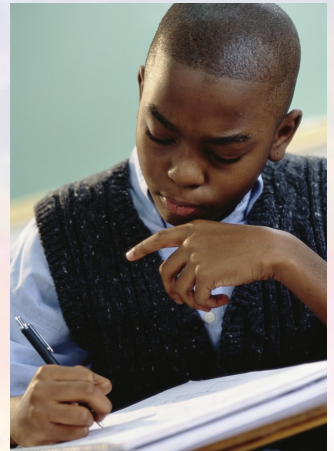
Then **contact the contest coordinator in your diocese** to submit your entry. This may be the diocesan CCHD representative or your diocesan contact for religious education, youth ministry, or Catholic education. Dioceses will select a winner for each age category and submit it to the national contest.

You can find contact details for your local CCHD diocesan coordinator by visiting: USCCB.org/about/catholic-campaign-for-human-development/diocesan-coordinators-catholic-campaign-for-human-development.cfm

Please note that the contest’s **national deadline is March 31**, but the **local deadlines will be earlier.** So be sure to contact your diocesan contact to find out details about the submission process for your local contest.

If you learn that your diocese is not participating in the contest, you can still participate. Contact the CCHD national office: JPHDmail@usccb.org Be sure to describe details of any communication you have already had with the diocese.

****NOTE: Anyone whose voice or image is recorded in an audio-visual submission must also submit a copy of the waiver form included in the following pages. Also, entries that feature ANY music, photos or videos created by another person MUST include proof of permission to use it. This includes but is not limited to: magazine pictures, songs, any person featured in ANY way in a video or picture, music or stock images from the internet.**



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Contest Entry Form (p. 1 of 3)

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM (to be completed by the youth **contestant(s)**. In other words, the entry form must be completed by a student, NOT an adult. Please write legibly.)

Name of contestant(s) completing entry form

Title of Work: _____

What is the medium of your work (e.g. painting, video, poem, etc.):

Where did you present or share your work?

- Date: _____
- Place: _____
- Number of people attending _____

Circle your grade category: 7-9th grade 10-12th grade

Through which institution are you submitting this work? ___ Parish or ___ School

Reflect on and answer the following four short essay questions. Type your answers and submit them with your entry form. They will be considered along with your artwork in the national judging process. **Each answer should be between 4 to 6 sentences.**

1. **Why does the Church teach that all people have a right to affordable housing?**
2. **Select a CCHD funded group that addresses Homelessness. How do they address the problem with the “foot of charitable works”? How do they address the problem with “the foot of social justice”?**
3. **Select a CCHD funded group that addresses Affordable Housing. How do they address the problem with the “foot of charitable works”? How do they address the problem with “the foot of social justice”?**
4. **Describe how your creative work reflects this year’s theme: “More than a Roof”?**



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Contest Entry Form (p. 2 of 3)

Youth contestant * Name & Address:

Name of parish or school to which the entry is being submitted:

(Arch) Diocese:

Grade of the contestant:*

Contestant home phone number:

()

Contestant email address:

Parent/Guardian cell phone number:

Parent/Guardian email address:

* If this is a team entry, please write the name of one youth representative for the team, and attach a separate sheet of paper with a list of all team member's full name and in parentheses state the grade of each contestant. For example, "John Smith (7)" would indicate that John Smith is in seventh grade. Each team member also needs to complete the Agreement for Entry of Work, which can be found on the next page.

I, as the contestant, understand and have followed the contest guidelines.

_____ (Please initial)

School or Parish Adult Contact Name and Title:

Institution's Full name and address:

Phone number:

()

Email address:



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Contest Entry Form (p. 3 of 3)

Note about Use of Copyrighted Materials/Permissions

Please note that the contest rules indicate: "Each entry must be the original work of the student or team of students submitting the artwork. If the artist wishes to use material that is copyrighted by someone else (such as a song or web photo as part of a PowerPoint presentation or a cut-out picture from a magazine), he or she can only do so if written permission has been granted for its use. This written permission must be submitted with the entry."

Note about Clearance for Audio and Video Entries

Please note that anyone whose voice or image is recorded in an audio-visual submission must also submit a copy of the waiver below. If they are under 18, their parent or guardian must complete it to provide consent and release.

Agreement for Entry of Work

_____ (name of parent representing Contestant under 21 years old) (referred to in this agreement as "Contestant"), on behalf of my minor child, _____ (name of minor child and contestant), agrees (a) that by submitting _____ (name and description of art entry) (referred to in this Agreement as "Work") Contestant will abide by the Contest Guidelines attached to this Agreement and which Guidelines are incorporated in this Agreement, (b) that USCCB shall be the sole and exclusive owner of the Work and rights in the Work, including but not limited to the copyright, and that USCCB shall own or be licensed to use any materials and/or elements embodied in the Work which are not original to Contestant, (c) to indemnify and hold harmless USCCB from and against any and all claims, suits and costs which USCCB may incur arising from the Work and Contestant's preparation of the Work, and (d) that USCCB may assign, license or otherwise transfer its rights under this Agreement and that this Agreement shall inure to the benefit of USCCB's assigns, successors and licensees. Contestant and USCCB have indicated their acceptance of this Agreement by signing below:

By: _____

By: _____

Date: _____

Signature of Parent & Date of Signature

CCHD Youth & Young Adult Coordinator
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Please clearly write your name or team name as you'd like it to appear in any publicity or certificates, should you win:

Send Submission to:

Your diocesan contact (usually the diocesan CCHD representative, or the diocesan coordinator for youth ministry, religious education, or Catholic schools). Contact info for the diocesan CCHD representative is at www.usccb.org/cchd under "Who We Are." Your CCHD representative can inform you who is coordinating the contest in your diocese, and can also inform you of your local deadline, which may be earlier than the national annual contest deadline of March 31.



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