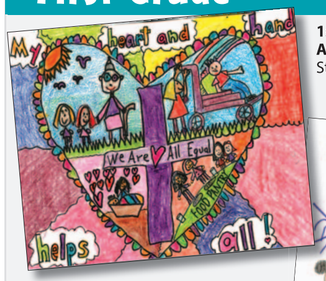
Respect for Life Poster Contest Winners

The diocesan Office of Respect for Life received close to 200 poster entries from 19 Catholic schools and 21 religious education programs for its annual poster contest, according to Jennifer A. Ruggiero, director. Students from grades one through eight focused their work on the theme "Every Life is Worth Living" In observance of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, contestants were asked to reflect on Christ's merciful love and the corporal works of mercy.

Winning entries were used to make the 2016-2017 Respect for Life Calendar.

Winners of the Respect for Life High School Logo & Film contest will be announced at a Mass and luncheon May 10 at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, Piscataway. Msgr. Richard Behl, chairman, diocesan Commission for Pro-Life Action, will serve as principal celebrant at the Mass.

First Grade



1st Place
Adriana Calabretta
St. Joseph School, Carteret

2nd Place Molly Bohen
St. Bernard of Clairvaux Religious Education, Bridgewater

Second Grade

1st Place Sofia Bertocci
St. Francis Cathedral School, Metuchen (above)

2nd Place Kenneth Mongelli
St. Anthony of Padua Religious Education, Port Reading (left)

Third Grade

1st Place
Dylan Zaniewski
St. Joseph School, Carteret

2nd Place
Amanda Stadtmiller
St. John Vianney School, Colonia

Fourth Grade

1st Place Allison Nieves
Nativity of our Lord Religious Education, Monroe Twp. (above)

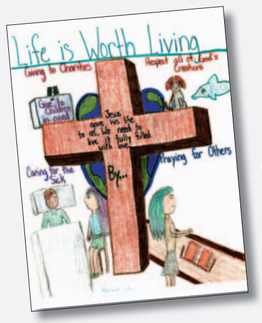
2nd Place Giada Schwam
St. Bartholomew School, East Brunswick (left)

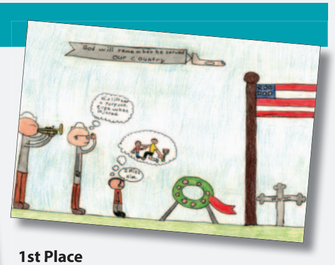
Fifth Grade

1st Place Belle Hnasko
St. Matthias School, Somerset

2nd Place Hannah Ceballos
Perth Amboy Catholic School, Perth Amboy

Sixth Grade



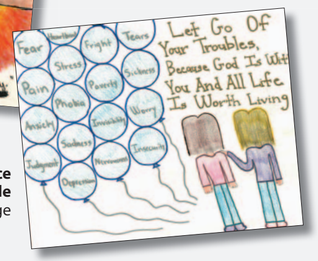


1st Place
Shane Samuelson
St. Joseph School, Carteret (above)

2nd Place
Rachel Wu
St. Stanislaus Kostka School, Sayreville (left)

Seventh Grade

1st Place
Kristina Ibe
St. Augustine of Canterbury School, Kendall Park



2nd Place
Carissa Matrale
St. Ambrose School, Old Bridge

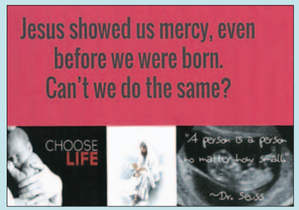
Eighth Grade

1st Place Daniel Dias
Our Lady of Victories Religious Education, Sayreville

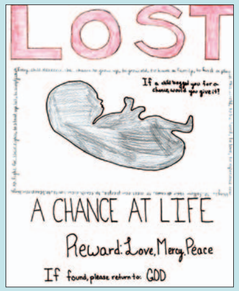
2nd Place Tie
Varun Mannam
St. Helena School, Edison (above)

2nd Place Tie
Patricia Pestano
St. Augustine of Canterbury School, Kendall Park

Respect for Life
High School Billboard Finalists



Sean Doran
Immaculata High School
Grade 10



Victoria Parish
Immaculata High School
Grade 10

Brianna Hunt
Mount Saint Mary Academy
Grade 9

You High School Finalists

Deonna Powell
Immaculata High School

Elizabeth Nelson
Bishop Ahr High School

Brianna McAleese
Bishop George Ahr High School
Grade 10

Grace Schleck
Mount Saint Mary Academy
Grade 9

Margaret Yorkgitis
Immaculata High School
Grade 10