All Member Business Division

AB01: BEST EXAMPLE OF EFFECTIVE ADVERTISING PROMOTION ORIGINATING WITH THE PUBLICATION OR PUBLICATION'S WEBSITE

First Place

Rhode Island Catholic, “Bishop Tobin Ad Promotion” by Richard Lafond

Very nice. The writing is long-winded, flowery and 'flowy'—but quite elegant and fitting for the occasion. The whole story is there (in just 1 page). I know exactly what's happening—and I don’t know the man and I have never been there. The shift in sizes and fonts—message to message—is very very smooth and beautiful. The page is nicely laid out. The masthead at the bottom even plays like part of the text. Finally, the call for advertising is subtle and concise—and does not draw away from (or override) the event, or the man.

Second Place

Northwest Catholic, “Senior Vitality” by Keri Hake, Advertising Sales Manager, Ron Anderson, Advertising Representative

This is an excellent advertisement and the theme/message could not possibly be more relevant: 18,000 families facing critical decisions on life/death. That said, there are a few shortcomings. The layout is 'cramped' in two spots:

1. Beneath 'October 17' (text: 'Reservations due: August 16 Materials due: August 30') The text is crowding in on itself. And we don't know What reservations? What materials? My eyes haven't even hit the photo. It's confusing and it gets lost. The information should be at the bottom (as a part of a call to action) and the text layout, visually, needs an extra buffer space.

2. The text is similarly cramped beneath the “125,000 Catholic Families Need Your Help” headline. Give it a little room to breathe. Most importantly, the Special Advertising Offer is a little bit big and gaudy. It kind of draws away from the message. (Helping the 18,000 families is the most important part). It could be toned down and still be just as effective. Finally, there's a grammatical error in the text. "Make sure your community {is} at the top of their list"

Nonetheless, an excellent entry. The photo is fantastic. It tells most of the story, all by itself. The colors in the photo actually match the colors in the page layout (purples and pinks, soft blues and greens—Easter pastels, basically) which is a nice and subtle touch. The fonts are nice and the text is clean and sharp and well-written. And again, the issue is huge. 18,000 families need church guidance. Be a part of it. Well done. Keep up the great work.

AB02a: BEST SINGLE AD ORIGINATING WITH THE PUBLICATION: Black and White Ad

First Place

The Catholic Sun, “MLK Mass” by Mick Welsh

Fantastic. The black and white is vivid, touching and memorable. The photo is world class. The date and time (i.e., the most important information) are played huge and direct and clear. I'm normally against all CAPS but it works beautifully here. Even the clipped web address (no www) looks smooth and sharp. Flawless.
AB02b: BEST SINGLE AD ORIGINATING WITH THE PUBLICATION: Color Ad

First Place

*Catholic News Herald, “Spend Time in the Presence of Our Lord” by Kevin Eagan, Tim Faragher*

This ad has a lot going for it: Very clean design. Good colors. Nice scripture quote. Simple message—albeit a solid and profound one (and a great reminder). The photo is excellent and tells an entire story all by itself. Again—excellent. Maybe the best one I've seen in the competition. All the (necessary) 'hard' information is there (dates/times/etc). And the call to action is large and clear. Top notch work.

Second Place

*The Tablet, “2017 Catholic High Schools Fair” by Israel Ochoa*

That color is really explosive. But it works well; vibrant and stylish. Putting the headlines and text in black is a good way to play off that scheme. There are two calls to action (open house/testing) but I'm okay with that. It's done well. Like a touchdown, with an extra point. The black bar with the contact info at the bottom is nice too. There's no weak spot here. Excellent work.

Third Place

*East Texas Catholic, “Lenten Meditative Choral and Instrumental Sacred Music Concert” by Juan Ceja*

Right away—it would be nice to split up 'Soul of the City Concert Series.' It's such a beautiful name—and it kind of gets lost/tangled (I read Soul of the City Concert). The all-left text alignment is nice. It leads the eye to the crucifix. But the pink glow also pushes your eye back—which makes for nice balance. The colors are excellent. Perfect Lent, personified. ALL CAPS is normally a no-no. But it is very nice here. Mostly because the font is so elegant. Very strong. Very striking. Very powerful. There's not really a weak spot here. Maybe the second time it says “ST. ANTHONY CATHEDRAL BASILICA” feels redundant (we got that part), and then “Historic Downtown Beaumont” gets crushed beneath its weight. Free Admission gets way underplayed. Why is it the only thing NOT in all caps? It's the most important part (that's what makes me want to go). Nonetheless, fantastic work. It's tough to make a rough tortured crucifix look beautiful (and literally attractive). I just wish I could place this higher. The competition is really fierce. I think it could win in a different year.

Honorable Mention

*The Compass, “Best Color Ad | Catholic Charities” by Amy Kawula and Rachel Cunningham*

I love this ad. It is so simple in the best possible way. Great imagery. The golfer tells a story all by himself. Putting the schedule 'into' the horizontal skyline was a very nice aesthetic touch. The color scheme is beautiful. The black and white is well played. Pulling the grass' green for 'Questions' was elegant and subtle. The ad is incredibly easy to read (and even read again). The Call to Action is even better—personal. I like that there's no last names. Just ask for Ted. I don't have any questions, I know what to do and it makes me want to go.
AB03: BEST AD COPYWRITING

First Place

*The Catholic University of America, “Discover Catholic University” by Jackie Malcolm Narguess Moasser*

Researchers have discovered that even if (the) glass breaks, the waste remains contained. Otherwise, very nice. It makes me want to learn more—and not even just about CUA—about nuclear waste and glass and more.

Second Place

*Chronicle of Higher Education, “Discover Catholic University” by Jackie Malcolm Narguess Moasser*

There's a few hiccups (e.g. using “their” before we know who they are) but this is a very sound piece of writing. It covers a lot of ground quickly and is very clear. It paints a picture of something I think everyone wants to be a part of.

Third Place

*Jesuits Magazine, “With Others. For Others.” by Midwest Jesuits*

The photos are the best part. It's nice to see who's incoming, and the elderly Jesuits at the end make it a really beautiful timeline (or cycle). The financial appeal for tuition is solid. But overall the copywriting is too thin for me to place higher.

AB04: BEST PRINT CIRCULATION PROMOTION CAMPAIGN

First Place

*The Compass, “Compass in the Classroom” by Amy Kawula and Rachel Cunningham*

Fantastically innovative and thorough. This campaign organizer should be promoted—to CPA or CNS HQ—to get numbers up nationwide. Focusing on classrooms is a marvelous idea. (How many religion teachers struggle for curriculum?) Building good habits in youth is always the best way forward. The ads and registration forms are clean and beautiful. Well done.

Second Place

*The Florida Catholic, Orlando, “Circulation campaign: Your Catholic news at its best” by Florida Catholic staff*

The color scheme is great. The blue-and-white look is clean and attractive. The e-edition/print edition photo is nice, too. Very clever. The How to Subscribe arrow and info bar is excellent. It lays out the How to Methods very clearly. The Make a Difference tag is kind of weak, tho. There are many better options. But everything else is excellent. Well done.
AB05: BEST MEDIA KIT CREATED IN 2017

First Place

*The Tablet,* “DeSales Media Kit” by Israel Ochoa

This is an extremely professional media kit with compelling graphic elements and clearly organized information. Now *that* is a fully equipped Media Kit. (Even a radio station and podcasts? And appearing daily on phones.) Multi-media mastery. Well done. (At this juncture, you should definitely consider sharing some of your insight and wisdom with your fellow dioceses. Your model is excellent. You've been blessed (a great deal) and you have a lot to pass on and teach.

Second Place

*St. Anthony Messenger,* “St. Anthony Messenger Media Kit” by Designed by Mary Catherine Kozusko, Art Director

This is a high quality media kit with compelling visuals and easy-to-absorb information A lot of good things happening here. The photos are excellent. The layout is sharp. The graphics are clean and accessible. The research is thorough. The writing has a consistent personal tone.

AB06: BEST LOCAL RETAIL CAMPAIGN ORIGINATING WITH THE PUBLICATION

First Place

*Arlington Catholic Herald,* “Irish Walk” by Ashleigh Kassock, Advertising staff

The green is well played. Subtle, but always there. The info bar at the bottom is nice. Clean sharp and concise. The product pictures are perfect. Definitely the most creative entry. And very clever—exactly what I love about and expect from the Irish.

Second Place

*The Tablet,* “AandG Pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Rome” by Israel Ochoa

Great photos and excellent design. The central blue-gold box is nice. It just describes the services offered perfectly—nothing more, nothing less. It's only like 20 words; but I don't have a single question. I like the contact info organized together at the bottom (in blue) against the white. The fact that the blue and gold actually matches the photos, is just the cherry on top.

Third Place

*The Compass,* “Estate Plan Group” by Amy Kawula and Rachel Cunningham

Nice clean design. The ads are very well-laid out. The information is very accessible. Nothing is redundant or repeated. I like the personal photo and the 'Proud Parishioner' part. I know who I'm dealing with and I know why he's advertising here. Excellent work.

Honorable Mentions

*Arlington Catholic Herald,* “Summer Storytime at Pauline Books” by David Garcia, Ashleigh Kassock, Advertising staff

*The Compass,* “GRACE Academy” by Amy Kawula and Rachel Cunningham
AB07: BEST PROMOTIONAL HOUSE AD

First Place

Arkansas Catholic, “The Truth will set you free” by Emily Roberts

This ad offers a compelling value proposition that is creatively reflected in the design. It elicits the desire to experience the product it promotes.

Second Place

The Compass, “Get Illuminated” by Amy Kawula and Joe Heller

The design in this ad is exceptional, and it gains strength due to the seamless integration of a fitting tagline!

Third Place

Arlington Catholic Herald, “Respect life month” by Ashleigh Kassock, Advertising staff

The central image in this ad elicits a strong emotional response that, in itself, serves as a call to action.

AB20: BEST SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT OR SPECIAL ISSUE WITH ADVERTISING EMPHASIS

First Place

The Compass, “Priest Jubilees” by Jeff Kurowski and Amy Kawula

The orange color-scheme is very rare. But it is great. Very bright, very vivid and very well done. The photos are excellent. Very personal and familiar. The page definitely makes me want to learn more. It draws me in. Linking to the (related) pages/articles is done superbly; clean and bold, but subtle. I like how the orange and white (abstract) beams in the background scheme fall on the men. Layered radiance. There's no weakness here. Superb work.

Second Place

Our Sunday Visitor, “How We Prepare Our People” by OSV staff

Those arrows are great. An awful lot is said in five words, with three arrows. The arrow on top of the TOC is a nice subtle (additional) touch. The table of contents is great. The abstract nun and priest graphics fit well. The extra arrows in the (faded) background layer just further the effect. There's a lot to like here. Vocations is a tough subject to depict graphically.

Third Place

The Boston Pilot, “Open House 2017” by Larry Ricardo, Nan Wilkins

Awesome. That cover is worth a thousand words (and more). It's bright and clever and simple. Excellent work.

Honorable Mentions

New Jersey Catholic magazine, “Pallium Issue” by Advocate Publishing Corp. staff

Northwest Catholic, “June 2017 Welcome Bishop Mueggenborg”
AB21a: BEST ANNUAL REPORT: BEST ANNUAL REPORT ON (ARCH)DIOCESAN FINANCES

First Place


Using multiple languages in the annual report ensures that this message is accessible to all of the East Texas Catholic audience.

Second Place

_Texas Catholic Herald, “His Mercy Endures Forever: DSF 2016 Annual Report” by Catherine Viola_

The graphics of this annual report help communicate the message with flair and understanding.

Third Place

_Catholic News Herald, “My Soul Proclaims the Greatness of the Lord” by Tim Faragher, William Weldon_

This in-depth and highly comprehensive report effectively shares the highlights of the Diocese of Charlotte.

AB21b: BEST ANNUAL REPORT: BEST ANNUAL REPORT FOR A CATHOLIC NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

First Place

_Catholic Extension, “Catholic Extension 2016 Annual Report” by Virginia Sara and Laura Coyle_

This comprehensive annual report blends engaging elements of photography, written stories and illuminating graphics to paint a portrait of Catholic Extension reach.

Second Place


Beautiful and vibrant photography highlights this informative and engaging annual report.

Third Place

_The Compass, “Catholic Charities” by Amy Kawula and Rachel Cunningham_

The Catholic Charities report provides a compelling and informative overview of its mission with great use of photography, written columns and updates from its partners.
Honorable Mention

Voices in Mission and Ministry, “Counting Our Blessings—2016-2017 Annual Report of the Adrian Dominican Sisters” by Angela Kessler; Barbara Kelley, OP; Jessica Havens; Amy Palmer

AB40: MOST EFFECTIVE USE OF SMALL SPACE

First Place

Arlington Catholic Herald, “Bishop Ireton sticky note” by David Garcia, Advertising staff

An elegant and effective design to capture attention on the front of a newspaper.

Second Place

Rhode Island Catholic, “Pilgrimage to Ireland” by Laura Kilgus

The use of negative space helps draw attention to this ad and provides a clean, attractive interface.

Third Place

Arlington Catholic Herald, “Shopping at the Paschal Lamb” by Ashleigh Kassock, Advertising staff

A creative and fun way to capture attention and interest with graphics and photography.
All Member Digital Division

AD08b: BEST BLOG: Publication Blog

First Place

*National Catholic Reporter, “NCR Today” by NCR staff and contributors*

They covered a wide variety of topics in their regularly scheduled blog posts throughout the 2017 year. Their morning briefings gave readers something consistent to rely on and read, and their topic-specific articles were captivating and well thought out. They take an interesting and modern approach to religion and the role of Catholicism in terms of current events, social justice, and politics, from the "Campus Notebook" segments that focus on issues on college campuses, to the pieces on gun control and safety, to articles connecting the spirit of Jesus to current issues of poverty and suffering.

Second Place

*The Visitor, “From the heart: A Catholic Blog for Central Minnesota” by Coordinated by Kristi Anderson*

I have reviewed this blog for several years now and I enjoy it every time. I love the variety of posts from cooking recipes to inspirational messages to tips on bringing Catholicism into your everyday life. I think that this blog does a great job of capturing day-to-day life in Minnesota and captivating its intended audience. I like that they use photos and clip art throughout the blog posts to keep them bright and interesting.

Third Place

*Holy Cross Family Ministries, “CatholicMom.com”*

Every year I enjoy this blog, but I wish they had better search/organization features so that I could more easily find 2017 posts. That being said, these blog posts always cover a wide range of topics and do a good job revolving around religion without being too heavy or serious. Since they incorporate articles from contributors they have a lot of different perspectives and voices featured on their blogs.

Honorable Mention

*Catholic Courier, “Our Two Cents” by Mike Latona, Annette Jiménez, Jennifer Burke, Gina Capellazzi and Jennifer Ficca glia*

AD08c: BEST BLOG: By Layperson

First Place

*National Catholic Reporter, “Young Voices” by Nicole Sotelo, Jocelyn A. Sideco, Julia Walsh, Allison Walter, Mike Jordan Laskey, Brian Harper, Christian Mocek, Jennifer Mertens, Clare Coffey, Mark Piper, Susan Rose Francois, Christin Tomy, Jennifer Wilson, Tracy Kemme, Tracey Horan, Colleen Gibson*
I really liked this blog and its focus on issues facing America's youth. They do a good job incorporating lessons and values of Christianity into cool and relatable topics (e.g. Wonder Woman). Additionally, the writing style is professional and well developed. Concerns over lingering racism, women's rights issues, and drug addiction make for a powerful and insightful blog.

Second Place

National Catholic Reporter, “Distinctly Catholic” by Michael Sean Winters

These articles are very informative and present rational, well-developed arguments about the intersections between Catholicism and politics in America. The author takes issues such as the storm recovery in Puerto Rico and U.S. foreign policy and both provides background on the issues and presents a framework in which Catholics can evaluate their role and how the lessons of Christianity and Jesus can guide their stance and actions on certain issues. The writing style of these posts is a double-edged sword. In some ways, they are excellent because they are professional and even academic in style. In other ways, this may be something that audience members do not like. It is hard to judge an entry like this against something like Open Window, which is often about recipes and arts and crafts and takes on a much more conversational tone.

Third Place

VISION Vocation Guide, “Questions Catholics Ask” by Alice Camille

I like that this blog keeps to a theme (answering questions about Catholicism) while also covering a diverse set of topics. The blog answers questions without being condescending or scolding its readers for not knowing the answers already. Even if readers did not think to ask these questions themselves, I am sure they would be left intrigued and enlightened by what they read.

Honorable Mentions

The Catholic Review, “Open Window” by Rita Buettner

National Catholic Reporter, “My Table Is Spread” by Melissa Musick Nussbaum

AD08d: BEST BLOG: By Religious/Clergy

First Place

Catholic Outlook, “Monday Memo” by Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas

These posts are well written and cover a wide variety of topics not only across articles, but also within them. Each Monday recap has a strong assortment of current events, Church notices, and insightful advice rooted in Catholicism. They also include graphics which keep the posts from seeming too dry and text-heavy. Overall, this is a quality blog. I like the consistency of publication every Monday and giving readers something to look forward to and rely on at the start of each week. They are a good combination of informative (taking on a newsletter format in some cases) and spiritual.
Second Place

National Catholic Reporter, “Simply Spirit” by Christine Schenk

I really like this blog! They cover a great mix of political topics and brought Catholic values into real world applications. They explore incredibly pressing topics and have an interesting viewpoint. These posts are not posted as often as the winning entry and do not have as consistent of a sharing strategy and format, but overall it is still an outstanding entry and a blog I thoroughly enjoyed reading.

AD09a: BEST ONLINE CONTENT NOT PUBLISHED IN PRINT: Written Content

First Place

National Catholic Reporter, “NCRonline.org” by Brian Roewe, Heidi Schlumpf, Tom Heneghan, NCR staff  Word document with URLs uploaded.

Excellent reporting on important issues. Courageous, bold story-telling. By far some of the best work I've read since I started judging for this contest years ago.

Second Place

Northwest Catholic, “Northwest Catholic local stories” by Michelle Bruno, Jean Parietti, Morningstar Stevenson, Nathan Whalen

The reporting here is as good as it gets. Deep newsgathering demonstrated in these articles.

Third Place

The Catholic Telegraph, “Rise Together: An Unforgettable Halftime” by Gail Finke

Great selection of work.

Honorable Mentions

Voices in Mission and Ministry, “adriandominicans.org” by Barbara Kelley, OP

Prepare the Word, “Homily Stories” by Patrice J. Tuohy, Jennifer Tomshack, Father Dominic Grassi
AD09b: BEST ONLINE CONTENT NOT PUBLISHED IN PRINT: Photo Content

First Place

*Catholic Standard,* “During Chrism Mass, Cardinal Wuerl says priestly identity is found ‘in our union with Christ’” by Jaclyn Lippelmann

Professional, visually appealing photography adds key detail and support to overall story. Excellent work.

Second Place

*Catholic Standard,* “Mother of three Dreamers holds fast on Capitol Hill for passage of the DREAM Act” by Jaclyn Lippelmann

Newsworthy, professional and visually compelling photography provides critical insight into a national issue. Excellent work!

Third Place

*Florida Catholic Miami,* “Good Friday Service of the Lord’s Passion” by Marlene Quaroni

Interesting perspective and versatile work make this selection difficult to beat. Wonderful and emotionally-compelling imagery.

Honorable Mention

*Florida Catholic Miami,* “Palm Sunday with Archbishop” by Jonathan Martinez

AD10: BEST FREESTANDING PRESENTATION OF ONLINE PHOTO GALLERY OR SLIDE SHOW

First Place

*Catholic Standard,* “Dedication of Trinity Dome Mosaic marks completion of National Shrine” by Jaclyn Lippelmann

Some excellent perspective, particularly relevant to the subject-matter. Very nice images, no misfires.

Second Place

*Catholic Courier,* “Penitential season of Lent begins” by Jeff Witherow, John Haeger

Excellent photography. Some intriguing stories. Very competent photography demonstrated throughout.
Honorable Mention

*Texas Catholic Herald, “Fatima 100: Hispanic, Vietnamese Communities Celebrate A Century of Our Lady of Fatima” by James Ramos*

**AD11a: BEST FREESTANDING PRESENTATION OF ONLINE VIDEO: News**

First Place

*America Media, “Meet my dad: The Republican who's hosting Muslim refugees” by America Films*

This video invites viewers into the personal relationship between a father and daughter with conflicting political views that do not diminish their admiration and love for each other. The topic is timely and shows the power of individual hospitality and openness to other cultures, thus transcending partisan politics. Really impressive video. Nice first-person perspective. Really nice production value, excellent edit, nice sound mix. Really nice content construction.

Second Place

*America Media, “Louisiana’s Cajun Catholics Eucharistic Procession” by America Films*

This video is sure to spark viewers' curiosity by offering an interesting glimpse into a part of American history and a Catholic subculture that many know little to nothing about. Very nice video, really intriguing story outside the norm. Impressive production value and edit.

Third Place


This video offers an in-depth history of Bishops in the U.S. that is at once educational and inspiring. Really nice content construction in the video. Excellent edit both image and sound. Nice audio mix, too.

Honorable Mention

*The Georgia Bulletin/Office of Communications, “Fish Frys Save Lives” by Allen Kinzly*

**AD11b: BEST FREESTANDING PRESENTATION OF ONLINE VIDEO: Feature**

First Place

*America Media, “The Catholic Church in China | A Short Documentary” by America Films*

Excellent video on Gaza. Great production value, very nice edit. Good content construction. Exceptionally important story.
Second Place

ONE Magazine, “Relief United Fundraiser” by Daniel Moreno

Important story of Syrian refugee fundraiser. Really nice video, especially nice content construction and edit. Additionally, good audio mix in helping create the story in its place.

Third Place

The Georgia Bulletin/Office of Communications, “Putting Trust in God’s Call” by Allen Kinzly

Quite good video of football player becoming a priest. Very well-told story of a newsworthy event. Very nice production value, good coverage and very competent edit.

Honorable Mention

Catholic News Service, “Catholics rediscover Gregorian chant” by Chaz Muth

AD11c: BEST FREESTANDING PRESENTATION OF ONLINE VIDEO: Depiction of religious life

First Place


Impressive story and video. Nice use of music, of course. Good edit. Excellent production value.

Honorable Mention

Voices in Mission and Ministry, “Preach with Your Life” by Scott Miller; Ashley LaVigne; Lorraine Reaume, OP; Sara Fairbanks, OP; Angela Kessler; Sheila Wathen

AD11d: BEST FREESTANDING PRESENTATION OF ONLINE VIDEO: Pro-life activities

First Place

Catholic News Agency, “Bella Natural Women's Care” by Jonah McKeown


Second Place

Catholic News Service, “A long March for Life journey” by Chaz Muth

Third Place

*Catholic News Service,* “Pro-life work is motherhood mission” by Chaz Muth


**AD13: BEST GENERAL PUBLISHER WEBSITE**

First Place

*Aleteia,* “Aleteia.org.”

Great headline writing. Nice that there are articles on a variety of topics, including alcohol.

Second Place

*USA Midwest Province of the Society of Jesus,* “JesuitsMidwest.Org”

Good focus on newsworthy stories.

Third Place

*Prepare the Word,* “PreparetheWord.com” by Prepare the Word editors, writers, contributors, and programmers.

Unique idea. Feature more than just homily stories on homepage.

**AD16: BEST WEB AND PRINT COMBINATION PACKAGE**

First Place

*ONE Magazine,* “Hard Choices”; “When Iraqis Come Home”; “Healing Wounds in Iraq” by Raed Rafei

Excellent story coverage in print, photos, online text, online video. Compelling print coverage. Online video was well-constructed, very moving.

Second Place

*ONE Magazine,* “Hardship and Hospitality;” “Love Against All Odds in Zahleh”; “Life and Love in Lebanon” by Raed Rafei

Nice combination coverage with print, photos, online text, online video. Photo coverage in print is quite nice. Online video is excellent.
Third Place

*The Texas Catholic, “Open Arms, Open Hearts: Dallas Catholics come to the aid of storm victims” by Cathy Harasta, David Sedeno, Michael Gresham, Jenna Teter, Seth Gonzales*

Quite nice, multiple-story coverage in print with nice mix of text and photos. Three videos online with text. Well-constructed, short, nice quality videos.

Honorable Mentions

*The Texas Catholic, “A Life Not Forgotten” by David Sedeno, Seth Gonzales, Jenna Teter, Michael Gresham*

*The Tablet, “World Communications Day Catholic Media Conference” by DeSales Media Group*

AD18a: BEST MULTIMEDIA PACKAGE: News Package

First Place

*Florida Catholic Miami, “Archbishop ordains nine to priesthood” by Ana Rodriguez-Soto (text & photos), Juan Di Prado & Javier Carrion (video), Tom Tracy (photos), Marlene Quaroni (photos)*

Great photos. The one of the father kissing his son is probably the best I’ve seen in the competition. There are a lot of photos here & the quality is very very high throughout. A lot of joy captured. The writing is excellent. The bios are well-done. The ads actually complement the package. Nice touch. The short video for each new priest (in his own voice) is just the cherry on top. Miami, the future is bright. Fantastic work.

Second Place

*America Media, “Lessons on evangelization from the largest parish in the United States” by Leah Libresco & Jeremy Zipple*

High quality feature about a noteworthy landmark parish. Plenty of great anecdotes & facts. (103 active ministries! Only 4 priests?) The photos are nice; they add life to the story. The video is maybe the best part, though. It has tone, pacing, music and a special air. Definitely a winner.
AD18b: BEST MULTIMEDIA PACKAGE: Feature Package

First Place

*Catholic Courier, “2017 National Catholic Youth Conference” by Gina Capellazzi, Jeff Witherow*

Fantastic photo to lead, and the quality never wanes. This is an excellent photographer. The writing is nice too. Plenty of interviews; good reporting. I like the option to blow up (larger) photos. I didn't see that anywhere else. Hands down, this was the best assembled multi-media package I saw. Even the design and coding were artistic & aesthetically elegant. I feel as if I were there.

Second Place

*Northwest Catholic, “Portrait of compassion” by Anna Weaver, Stephen Brashear*

Third Place

*America Media, “Prayer, puppets and pleas for peace in Gaza” by Matt Malone, S.J. & America Films*

AD20: BEST MULTIMEDIA PACKAGE SERIES

First Place


Creative, timely, and very newsworthy subject and story treatment. All multimedia elements are of the highest professional quality. This is a stand-out product that reflects the very best of media and multimedia journalism today.

Second Place

*Catholic News Service, “Gregorian Chant: Voice of the church (Three-part series)” by Chaz Muth, Jose Montoya, Bob Roller*

Creative and vivid accounts of the subject matter told with exceptional use of multimedia elements. The use of sound elements in this product is outstanding and sets it apart from others in the industry.

Third Place

*America Media, “Hurricane Maria” by J.D. Long-García & Jose Dueño*

Exceptional media coverage of the subject using multimedia elements. Powerful interviews and storytelling
Honorable Mention

*Catholic News Service, “Love & Faith: In celebration of mothers (Four-part series)” by Chaz Muth, Nancy Wiechec, Tyler Orsburn, Carol Glatz, Keanine Griggs*

AD24: BEST ILLUSTRATION WITH GRAPHIC DESIGN OR ART WORK

First Place

*America Media, “I pardoned a convict who killed again. Here’s why I still believe in mercy.” by Andrew Zbihlyj*

This portrait really captured my attention. I like the lines and the garnish tones in the picture. The picture itself is ambiguous much like the topic and it's an accurate portrayal of the subject. The hands joining is such a meaningful and powerful statement.

Second Place

*America Media, “A life of service is never easy. Having autism can make it even harder.” by Andrew Zbihlyj*

A thoughtful and meaningful portrait of the subject. It’s clear the artist spent a great deal of time to create a memorable work of art.

Third Place

*The Catholic Sun, “Three Kings” by Mick Welsh*

Honorable Mentions

*The Catholic Advocate newspaper, “Easter cover” by Marilyn Smith/Marge McCue*

*St. Anthony Messenger, “Witness” by Matt Manley*

AD25: BEST ONLINE PRESENTATION OF MULTIMEDIA VISUALS

First Place

*Northwest Catholic, “Introducing our next auxiliary bishop” by Anna Weaver, Stephen Brashear, Janis Olson, Kevin Birnbaum*

Timely and newsy. Great lead. I’d suggest combining the two videos into one.
Second Place

*National Catholic Reporter, “Fast-food workers celebrate Puzder's secretary of labor nomination withdrawal” by Shireen Korkzan, George Goss*

Good written text. You may want to clarify the names and titles in the lead. Good video for social media.

Third Place

*The Boston Pilot, “Web presentation of multimedia”*

Strongly edited video. It may have helped to put more background—why was the Pope there, etc.

Honorable Mention

*Maryknoll magazine, “HEALING ‘BURNING WATERS’ IN CONDORAQUE” by By Maria-Pia Negro Chin, photos by Nile Sprague*

**AD26: BEST MAGAZINE OR NEWSLETTER WEBSITE**

First Place

*Maryknoll magazine, “Maryknoll magazine” by Maryknoll magazine staff*

A robust and highly engaging digital magazine, and what put this entry over the top was the additional Spanish language edition that's equally as well-designed and successful.

Second Place

*America Media, “America Magazine” by America staff*

Deep and insightful commentary on a broad range of issues affecting the Church highlights this highly relevant site.

Third Place

*St. Norbert College Magazine, “St. Norbert College Magazine Online” by Susan Allen, Editor Laura Treichel, Art Director Nina Rouse, Web Editor*

The St. Norbert College website covers a diverse number of issues on its website, and presents it in engaging and easy-to-navigate fashion.
AD28: BEST NEWSPAPER WEBSITE

First Place

*National Catholic Reporter, “NCRonline.org“ by National Catholic Reporter staff and contributors*

The National Catholic Reporter has highly impressive content that includes investigative and enterprise reporting that is relevant for a diverse Catholic audience. This site delivers on its mission.

Second Place

*Catholic News Herald, “Catholic News Herald“ by Kimberly Bender*

The Catholic News Herald provides compelling web coverage for both local and global stories that are important to Catholics.

Third Place

*Catholic San Francisco, “Catholic San Francisco“ by Editor Rick DelVecchio, Catholic San Francisco, Associate Editor Christina Gray, Catholic San Francisco, Production Manager Karessa McCartney, Jan Potts, Assistant Communications Director*

Catholic San Francisco provides a compelling digital product that is rooted in mission and reporting, but that also attracts and engages its audience. Well done.

AD29: BEST ONLINE SPANISH PRESENTATION OF MULTIMEDIA VISUALS

First Place

*El Mensajero Católico, “Estudiantes aprenden a traves de artes escenicas” by Jeff Witherow*

Great piece of video journalism. It is enjoyable on many levels.

Second Place

*El Mensajero Católico, “Rally supports immigration-rights leader” by Jeff Witherow*

Well crafted story that covers all sides properly and in an unbiased manner.
AD30: BEST SPANISH PUBLICATION WEBSITE

First Place

*Revista Misioneros, “Misioneros: Revista de los Padres y Hermanos Maryknoll” by Revista Misioneros Staff*

The website captures the visually stunning presentation of the magazine, and maintains a good flow for visitors.

Second Place

*El Pregonero, “http://elpreg.org/” by STAFF EL PREGONERO*

The website provides a good balance between stories related to faith and current events in the United States.

AD31: BEST USE OF VIDEO IN SOCIAL MEDIA

First Place

*America Media, “Trump & Francis: a history in tweets” by America Films*

Timely and fascinating. Great use of making this video sound optional. Great captions and use of yellow text.

Second Place

*Arlington Catholic Herald, “The Whistler” by Ashleigh Kassock*

Amazing shares! Perfect for sharing!

Third Place

*Catholic News Agency, “Drowned toddler is making miraculously recovery” by Kate Veik*

Heartbreaking! Joyous! Great mix of photos and videos. Wonderful tone to the music.

Honorable Mentions

*The Catholic Review, “Top Confirmation Names in the Archdiocese of Baltimore for 2017” by George Matysek Jr. Sara Travlos*

*America Media, “Blessing of the Animals” by America Films*
AD32: BEST USE OF LIVE VIDEO IN SOCIAL MEDIA

First Place

*Florida Catholic Miami,* “A visit to UM Catholic Campus Ministry with Father Phillip Tran” by Cristina Cabrera Jarro

Good voice over. Great blend of new and old school broadcast journalism.

Second Place

*Northwest Catholic,* “Daniel Mueggenborg ordained seventh auxiliary bishop of Seattle” by Anna Weaver

Amazing way to broadcast an event when technology is a challenge.

Third Place

*The Tablet,* “Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass” by John-Mark de Palma, Alexandra Tingos

Strong shares and views!

Honorable Mention

*Catholic Diocese of Savannah,* “Joint Press Conference in Objection to the Death Penalty” by Timothy Williams, Jessica Marsala, Michael Johnson, and Barbara King

AD33: BEST USE OF PHOTOS IN SOCIAL MEDIA

First Place


This is one of the best pictures I've ever seen. The photographer captures such a beautiful, personal and emotional moment in the most respectful and meaningful way possible. A simple picture that speaks volumes about the importance of a first step in life. All of the photos convey the powerful emotion of service.

Second Place

*El Mensajero Católico,* “Borinquen Dance Theatre” by John Haeger

Beautiful pictures that capture the motion and energy of dance. The photographer did a wonderful job of bringing the creativity of dance to the reader/viewer.
Third Place

_The Leaven, “St. Thomas Aquinas vs. Bishop Carroll” by Lori Wood Habiger_

A good variety of photos that captures the heart of the game. The photographer covered all aspects of the game and the heart of the team.

Honorable Mentions

_Catholic Courier, “National Catholic Youth Conference” by Jeff Witherow_

_The Tablet, “Catholic Day” by John-Mark de Palma, Alexandra Tingos_

**AD34: BEST SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN**

First Place

_The Catholic University of America, “This Is Catholic U Social Media Campaign” by Jana Duckett_

This campaign makes the people it is seeking to engage the focal point, creating an innovative, fun, and virtual experience of a vibrant campus community.

Second Place

_Voices in Mission and Ministry, “HOPE” by Scott Miller, Ashley LaVigne, Amy Palmer, Angela Kessler, Sheila Wathen, Jessica Havens_

This campaign uses compelling videos with a consistent brand experience. It is no surprise that past year’s fundraising achievements were exceeded!

Third Place

_The Tablet, “Put Him On Your List” by Dave Plisky, Vito Formica, John-Mark de Palma, Alexandra Tingos, Israel Ochoa, Shartina Thompson, Carolyn Erstad, Theresia Nurtanio_

The innovative use of video and a compelling hashtag elevates this campaign, which seeks to inspire its audience with a clear and valuable call to action.
AD35: BEST PODCAST

First Place

*National Catholic Reporter, “NCR In Conversation” by Brittany Wilmes, Stephanie Yeagle, Toni-Ann Ortiz, George Goss*

This podcast series covers an array of timely and pertinent issues that directly affect the Catholic faith and vice versa. It is high in quality and in impact.

Second Place

*America Media, “Jesuitical” by Eloise Blondiau; Eric Sundrup, SJ; Ashley McKinless; Zac Davis; Olga Segura*

These podcast episodes feel like a casual conversation among friends, which makes them relatable and inspiring to listeners. The presentation on the web is high quality.

Third Place

*TrueQuest Communications, “Take Five for Faith’s “Take a break for Faith” podcasts” by Compiled and written by Daniel Grippo and other Take Five for Faith editors and contributors. Recorded by Curtis C. Long.*

The simple, accessible format of this podcasts empowers listeners to make their faith part of their daily experience.

AD36: BEST DIOCESAN WEBSITE

First Place

*Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange, “www.rcbo.org” by Bishop Kevin Vann, Ryan Lilyengren, Megan Norris, and Kimberly Porrazzo*

This website is user-friendly, easy to navigate, uses compelling graphic design and images, and above all, has a compelling and consistent call to action.

Second Place


This website sets itself apart through high quality content and powerful images, as well as depth and substance in its navigation.

Third Place

*Arkansas Catholic, “dolr.org” by Tara Little*

This website meets stated objectives and uses powerful images to inspire its users.
**Communication Division**

**CD08: BEST USE OF VIDEO IN SOCIAL MEDIA**

**First Place**

*The Tablet, “The Chosen” by John-Mark de Palma, Alexandra Tingos, NET-TV*

Simply incredible. The video production is top-notch, and the huge number of shares on the Facebook post shows it made an impact. But even more important than the attention-grabbing action shots, the post link directs to a well-produced microsite to drive traffic to the relevant call-to-action. Bravo.

**Second Place**

*Vermont Catholic magazine, “Year of Creation video” by Vermont Catholic staff*

To celebrate creation, it helps to show creation. This video really captures the message by showing scenes that illustrate the theme.

**Third Place**

*Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, “What not to say to an atheist” by Nicholas Sciarappa, Jacob Williamson*

This very clever and attention-getting video is both relevant to the audience and event it is promoting. The number of shares on the Facebook post shows that it resonated.

**CD12: BEST USE OF VIDEO—ONGOING SERIES**

**First Place**

*Florida Catholic Miami, “Get to know your new priests” by Juan Di Prado, Javier Carrion*

A simple and effective use of Facebook video to introduce new priests. The analytics on these posts show that they are working with the target audience.

**Second Place**

*Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany, “Share Your Joy: Bishop Scharfenberger on Spreading the Gospel One Story at a Time” by Diocese of Albany Office of Communications and John Heaney of MediaStream*

An engaging on-screen personality helps communicate how joy is shared through an effective use of Facebook video.
Third Place

*Catholic San Francisco (Communication Dept.), “Mosaic Series: Catholicism in the Archdiocese of San Francisco” by Producer/Host: J.A. Gray, Archdiocese of San Francisco Courtesy of KPIX, CBS Affiliate, San Francisco*

Effective use of TV media translated to a YouTube playlist to get the message out to the target audience.

**CD16: BEST FACEBOOK ACCOUNT**

First Place

*Vermont Catholic magazine, “Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington FaceBook” by Vermont Catholic staff*

The Archdiocese of Burlington has a small following, but they post often and that is impressive. I loved the daily readings posts. Very inspirational.

Second Place

*Diocese of St. Petersburg, “Best Facebook Diocese of St. Petersburg” by Maria Mertens*

Their posts are engaging and range from parish events to Advent teachings. The Archdiocese of St. Petersburg really showcases who they are and what they stand for on their Facebook page.

Third Place

*The Georgia Bulletin, “Facebook page, Archdiocese of Atlanta” by Office of Communications/Georgia Bulletin staff, Archdiocese of Atlanta*

The Archdiocese of Atlanta has very professional-looking posts that are colorful and engaging.

Honorable Mention

*The Tablet, “Diocese of Brooklyn” by John-Mark de Palma, Alexandra Tingos, NET-TV*

**CD18: BEST INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT**

First Place

*The Catholic University of America, “This Is Catholic U Instagram” by Jana Duckett*

The Catholic University site is very engaging and the narratives associated with the photos elicit interesting feedback.
CD20: BEST TWITTER ACCOUNT

First Place

The Catholic Accent, “Catholic Accent TODAY” by Elizabeth Fazzini, Mary Seamans, Jerome Zufelt

This Twitter account was very strong, especially for how new it was. They covered a great variety of subject matter, ranging from advice for poor spirits in cold weather, to updates on the Pope's travel, to little snippets of lesser-known history. The combination of text and visuals (pices, vids, etc.) was strong. I was shocked to see the frequency in which they posted in their summary page, but was pleasantly surprised to see that the material was still fresh and interesting. I also liked that they incorporated the audience into their posts (e.g. asking them to submit story ideas).

Second Place

The Georgia Bulletin, “Twitter account, Archdiocese of Atlanta” by Office of Communications/Georgia Bulletin staff, Archdiocese of Atlanta

Good combination of Spanish and English posts. They covered a wide variety of topics from football games, to weekly Scripture, to upcoming holidays/events in the Catholic community. There were a lot of graphics, but many that used stock photos. It would have been good to use more pictures of actual community members.

CD21: BEST TWITTER ACCOUNT—DIOCESAN BISHOP

First Place

Diocese of St. Petersburg, “Bishop Gregory Parkes” by Bishop Gregory Parkes with photo support from Father Carl Melchior

Great use of visuals, bright colored photos, and a wide variety of news. While many Twitter accounts rely on stock photos and text-based graphics, this one used large numbers of original photos showcasing their community members. He did a good job tagging related pages to maximize engagement.

Second Place

Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, “@BishopZubik” by Bishop David A. Zubik

I like that he found a way to incorporate light and mainstream topics into his stream of tweets focusing on religion. His reference to Star Wars Day, for example, showed his interest in connecting with his audience and finding something they have in common besides religion. He also provides small tokens of advice (and I imagine both comforts and energizes his followers) with his tips and words of wisdom. No visuals were included in his selected tweets.
Third Place

*The Compass, “@BishopDavidRicken” by Bishop David Ricken*

He provided useful tips about congregational life (e.g. coming for a crowded Christmas service), uplifting words rooted in faith, and shoutouts, so to-speak, to both living members of the Catholic community and historical figures. While some of his posts have graphics, I would like to have seen more of them.

CD23a: SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN OF THE YEAR: Social Media Campaign of the Year

First Place

*Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, “The Light is On For You”*

Great campaign. “Rediscover Confession” is brilliant. Thoughtful and well-done. I do think “The Light Is On for You” should go. It doesn’t tell me much. Just stick to “Rediscover Confession.” I like the bus ads and the videos are good. Nice art in both. Tying in Facebook to the whole thing makes for great coordination. Tho it would be nice to have one (campaign) webpage as well—which simply lists open Confession dates/times at every diocesan parish. Basically one big schedule with church addresses and maybe a reflection and/or prayer (the end). Well done.

Second Place

*The Tablet, “What’s My Calling?” by Dave Plisky, John-Mark de Palma*

Excellent work throughout. Worth emulating nationwide.

Third Place

*Vermont Catholic magazine, “Bishop’s Annual Appeal Social Media Campaign 2017” by Vermont Catholic staff*

Excellent use of Facebook. And it’s nice that there is balance in the postings. Things like “Collected Relics for Veneration”; cemetery information; teens in Vermont—are the type of posts that can keep and hold interest.

CD25: BEST FACEBOOK POST

First Place

*USA Midwest Province of the Society of Jesus, “Show your love for JesuitPrayer.Org!”*

Powerful, visually compelling photography combined with concise text copy with a clear call to action. Excellent use of social media planning to extend reach.
Second Place

*Florida Catholic Miami, “Hurricane season prayer” by Maria Alejandra Rivas*

Impressive audience share and reach. Well-designed post-planned and effectively crafted for specific audiences during a critical time of year.

Third Place

*The Tablet, “Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass” by John-Mark de Palma*

Excellent use of quality multimedia/video resources to draw audiences. Textual elements minimal, but well crafted. Well done!

Honorable Mentions

*Catholic Diocese of Erie, “The Bishop roars on Facebook” by Anne-Marie Welsh*

*Catholic San Francisco (Communication Dept.), “Archbishop Cordileone announces the death of Archbishop Emeritus John Quinn” by Jan Potts, Archdiocese of San Francisco*
Excellence Division

E01: BEST ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

First Place


There's a lot here; in a really good way. The variety is appealing. Articles, blogs, homilies, world and local news, book reviews and events, videos and links. And it all feels very accessible. I can take in as much of it as I choose without ever drowning in it. I feel like I never lose my place. Excellent organization, design and layout. The longer I look at it, the more I like it. A perfect model for other dioceses to emulate. Fantastic work.

Second Place

*ONE Magazine, “Discover ONE Online” by Paul Grillo, Gabriela Gaibor*

Nice work. There's a lot here. But it is quite well organized. That single-page ('all you need // that's fit to print in one stop') layout *the end* ... is golden. I can take it all in at once, which is huge. Simplicity is perfection. The photos are nice. The columns are clean and I like the footer with all the contact info in one place. I wish more designers did this. Finally—the focus/content is a rare gem. Finding credible, believable informed voices from the Middle East is quite a challenge. Keep up the great work.

Third Place

*Angelus, “Always Forward” by Tamara Tirado*

Great banner. Great head. Great tagline. The length is both accessible and digestible. The 'More Newsworthy Links' section is really nice. I like the variety and the accessibility. The Saint of the Day and the Photo of the Day are both easy layups, but you'd be surprised how many publications miss them. Well done. Excellent editorial sense in culling newsworthiness ('NFL liturgies' // 'Interpreting the Republican Tax Plan'—beautiful). Fantastic work.

Honorable Mentions

*Denver Catholic, “Denver Catholic e-newsletter” by Aaron Lambert, Karna Lozoya, Therese Bussen, Filippo Piccone*

*VISION Vocation Guide, “E-Vocation Newsletter” by Alice Camille, Jennifer Tomshack, and Patrice Tuohy*
E05: NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR - Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less

First Place

*The Compass, “Newspaper of the Year” by The Compass Staff*

The Compass is an excellent piece of journalism from top to bottom. The number of articles written by the staff is impressive and the subject matters range from immigration to families dealing with miscarriages. The paper is beautifully designed and the two special sections on religious jubilees were well executed. A pure pleasure to read. A wide variety of articles for a diverse readership. Nice balance between long and short articles and articles from local, national, and international perspectives.

Second Place

*The Observer, “Newspaper of the Year” by Observer staff*

The Observer has a variety of articles on issues of national and local importance. The writing is excellent and the special sections were tailored to young adults and seniors. There is something for everyone in the Observer. Nice variety of stories--enticing layout. Good array of stories for a diverse audience.

Third Place

*The Boston Pilot, “Newspaper of the Year 2017” by Boston Pilot staff*

The Pilot is a well-designed paper with beautiful graphics and clear pictures. The feature stories and photo spreads were stunning. I would have rated this paper higher, but they relied too much on CNS and not enough on original reporting.

Honorable Mentions

*Catholic Herald-Diocese of Madison, “Newspaper of the Year” by Catholic Herald-Madison staff*

*Rhode Island Catholic, “Newspaper of the Year” by Rick Snizek, Laura Kilgus, Lauren Clem, Richard Lafond, Sue Richard, Marie Zagorsky*

E06: NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR - Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place

*The Tablet, “Newspaper of The Year” by The Tablet staff*

The Tablet is a comprehensive newspaper with an extensive reach. The paper is professionally designed and has a variety of sections, adds, opinion pieces and youth-focused stories. Great layout and teasers to attract readers to open the newspaper. The reader definitely gets a substantial newspaper here.
Second Place

*Arlington Catholic Herald, “Catholic Herald”* by Catholic Herald Staff

Nice teasers to attract readers into the newspaper. The layout is a fun and varied. Nice balance of stories from a variety of areas—news, sports.

Third Place

*Clarion Herald, “Newspaper of the Year—Weekly Diocesan Newspaper”* by Clarion Herald Staff

The Catholic wedding special section was excellent. Very impressive collection and variety of stories. Nice layout—there is a lot packed into this newspaper. The bite-sized stories are particularly appealing for the busy reader.

Honorable Mentions

*St. Louis Review, “St. Louis Review”* by St. Louis Review staff

*Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange, “Orange County Catholic”* by Publisher: The Most Rev. Bishop Kevin Vann

E07: NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR - Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less

First Place

*Catholic Sentinel, “Catholic Sentinel”* by Sentinel staff, with Ed Langlois, managing editor

The *Sentinel* has fascinating stories, topics that range from pornography and Catholicism to tattoos and evangelization. The paper is visually stimulating and by far one of the most comprehensive and newsworthy papers I have ever read. Simply excellent. Nice layout. Nice use of teasers to entice readers into the newspaper. Excellent use of photography to draw in readers. Good variety of different lengths of articles for a diversity of readers.

Second Place

*Catholic Standard, “True Blue,” “Hail Mary,” “The Challenge of Racism Today”* by Catholic Standard staff

The *Catholic Standard* has excellent story topics and the section on racism was superb. This was a joy to read from cover to cover. Enticing layout and very readable articles. Great depth in all articles.

Third Place

*The Monitor, “Models of Faith; ‘We Are a Pilgrim People’; Prepare the Way for the Lord”* by Monitor staff and freelance partners
The Monitor is impressive from top to bottom. The story variety, the special sections, the reporting and the visual design of the paper are excellent. This paper deserves to be a top contender.

Honorable Mentions

The Michigan Catholic, “The Michigan Catholic” by The Michigan Catholic staff

The Florida Catholic Venice, “Florida Catholic, Venice Newspaper of the Year” by Bob Reddy, Jean Gonzalez, Mary Rose Denaro, Ann B. Slade, Michael Jimenez and Florida Catholic staff

E08: NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR - Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place


The diversity of topics and ability to reach a broad audience and offer something for practically everyone are what makes this newspaper stand out. The cover photos are enticing. It has a nice balance of local, national, and international coverage--including sports and arts that are relevant locally.

Second Place


This paper is beautifully laid out and the design aesthetic should be commended. This paper has something for just about everyone. I like the fact that it seeks to reach a diverse audience, in terms of age, culture, and interests. The layout is lively, and the graphics add to the energy of the paper. There is a good balance between long reads and short blurbs. The blurbs on the front that lead readers in to the newspaper for full articles are nice.

Third Place

Western New York Catholic, “October—November—December” by WNYCatholic Staff

The diversity of topics and ability to reach a broad audience and offer something for practically everyone is what makes this newspaper stand out. The cover photos are enticing. It has a nice balance of local, national, and international coverage--including sports and arts that are relevant locally.
Honorable Mentions

The Catholic Spirit, St. Paul, MN, “Newspaper of the Year” by Maria Wiering, Jessica Trygstad, Dave Hrbacek, Matthew Davis, Caron Olhoft, Dick Martens, Chris Pierskalla, Jackie Daugherty, Michael Pytleski, Tom Halden and Bernie Troje

The Southern Cross Newspaper - San Diego, “The Southern Cross” by Father Charles Fuld, Denis Grasska, Aida Bustos, Lucas Turnbloom and Donna Lightsey

E09: NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR - National Newspaper

First Place

National Catholic Register, “Racism on Main Street; Houston's 'Dunkirk' Moment; Consecrated to the Blessed Mother” by The Register staff

The National Catholic Register has interesting stories with a variety of topics ranging from immigration, pro life rallies, and racism. The graphics and photos in the paper are also superb. A nice variety of topics for an audience with diverse interests. Articles are well written and easy to read.

Second Place

Our Sunday Visitor, “Our Sunday Visitor” by OSV News Team

The variety of story topics covered is commendable.

Third Place

The Catholic Register, “The Catholic Register” by The Catholic Register staff

Very substantive newspaper with a variety of topics and sizes of stories to appeal to a diverse audience. Enticing layout and graphics. The type of newspaper a reader would look forward to receiving and reading, all the way through.

Honorable Mentions

National Catholic Reporter, “National Catholic Reporter” by NCR staff and contributors

Catholic Health World, “Catholic Health World” by Judy VandeWater, Julie Minda, Betsy Taylor
E10: SPANISH STAFF WRITER OF THE YEAR

First Place

*Revista Misioneros*, “UNA LUZ DE ESPERANZA, LOS RÍOS SUCIOS, ACOMPANmando A LOS MÁS VULNERABLES, SANANDO AGUAS QUE QUEMAN, UN HOgar SAGRADO PARA LOS FIELES DE ICHU” by María-Pía Negro Chin

The one feature that sets Ms. Negro Chin apart from other writers is her flawless transitions between quotes from interviews and background information to give context to her readers. The stories by María Pía Negro Chin are fully reported, rich in quotes and details, and fluidly written. Their themes are varied and fresh. The reader will learn and be inspired.

Second Place

*Revista Misioneros*, “ATRAPADA EN LIMBO, VIGILIA PARA SOÑADORES, LOS NUEVOS VECINOS, LA HORA SANTA DE GALVESTON-HOUSTON” by Giovana Soria

Ms. Soria is a great writer who tackles immigration policies and their direct implications on residents with ease and grace. Giovana Soria covers events with a purpose—to shed light on immigration issues that are of vital importance to the Hispanic community in the United States. The writing is clear and engaging, and the people she features offer telling and evocative examples of the issues at hand.

Third Place

*El Mensajero Católico*, “Spanish Staff Writer of the Year” by Annette Jiménez

Ms. Jiménez is a great writer. She has a clear ability to tackle a wide range of topics (from politics to sports) and provide good information and analysis to readers. The writer effectively uses the opportunity provided by spot-news stories to enhance coverage and provide context and useful background on issues of interest to the community.

E11: SPANISH EDITOR OF THE YEAR

First Place

*Nuestra Voz*, “Puerto Rico: El próximo desastre; El Arzobispo de San Juan: Sin temor al futuro; Puerto Rico: desastre y milagro; Solidaridad y esperanza para Puerto Rico; Un Mes de la Herencia Hispana diferente” by Jorge I. Domínguez-López

Very effective phrasing, sharp. The format is good, photos are too. Congrats. Excelentes trabajos de temas variados y extensión significativa. Encontré un par de “typos” y algunos errores de redacción. Las fotografías, pies de foto y subtítulos fueron bien seleccionados. Información de primera mano que lleva al lector al lugar de los hechos.
Second Place

*Revista Misioneros, “Misioneros” by David R. Aquije*

His writing is good, but the videos include so much text and the music is disturbing. Leí los tres artículos impresos: Hijo, reza por mí, De revista a misioneros y jugando con la tía Molly. Tres temas diferentes que fueron tratados de manera apropiada. Lo recomiendo para primer lugar por la temática y profundidad de sus trabajos.

Third Place

*El Católico de Rhode Island, “El Padre Roberto Manuel Bermeo llega de Ecuador a servir en Blessed Sacrament, Consejos para limitar el uso de la tecnología en el hogar y fomentar la comunicación y vida familiar, Líderes nacionales y regionales, El Encuentro Parroquial en Holy Ghost” by Silvio A. Cuéllar*

Leí los tres editoriales del autor. El nivel de profundidad de cada uno varía y hay importantes saltos de contenido en una misma publicación. A su favor, encontré información útil, de primera mano, como fechas de eventos y consejos para controlar el uso de la tecnología en el hogar. Los diálogos los manejó con comillas en lugar de guión largo, como marca el idioma español.

**E12: SPANISH PUBLICATION OF THE YEAR**

First Place

*El Mensajero Católico, “Spanish Publication of the Year” by Staff*

*El Mensajero* serves the Rochester community with a newspaper that, beyond coverage of issues relating to the faith (which it does with distinction), offers its readers the tools to lead an active, productive and effective civic life. I was particularly impressed by the articles focusing on the mayoral and school board races (this last one including mini-profiles of the candidates). The stories are well written, the pages beautifully designed. And after reading *El Mensajero*, Rochester readers have the tools to make major community choices. In its own way, it is an indispensable publication for Rochester's Hispanic Community.

Second Place

*Revista Misioneros, “Misioneros” by Revista Misioneros Staff*

Misioneros distinguishes itself by the quality of its reporting and writing and the thoroughness with which it covers the work of Maryknoll priests and brothers. It makes its readers aware of issues of consequence around the world—from environmental problems to immigration concerns—and does it with elegance and professionalism.
Third Place

*El Heraldo Católico, “Entire issue” by Staff*

The allusion to the *Washington Herald* it’s great, the design is very comfortable to read and seems good, but the grammar and style can be better. They have a great notion of the eye, we can see that based in the attractive topics. With better editing, concerns more about style, they can be the best.

Honorable Mentions

*El Pregonero, “Retorno a clases; Identidad: idioma y fe; Tus sueños, nuestros sueños” by El Pregonero staff*

*La Voz Catolica, “Best Spanish publication” by Rocio Granados, Manolo Villaverde, Emilio de Armas, Maritza Alvarez, Ana Rodriguez-Soto*

E13: WRITER OF THE YEAR

First Place

*Angelus, “R.W. Dellinger” by R.W. Dellinger*

Amazing topics explored fully through interviewing, observation and research. Beautifully done. If R.W. Dellinger hasn’t gotten a raise lately, someone at the *Angelus* should rectify that situation immediately. The work from “Beyond Numbers the Homeless in Los Angeles” to “An Asylum Seeker’s Story” and through mothers in prison is only topped by talking to white supremacists and his piece “Hate in America.”

Dellinger shows us the places and faces of where our faith is and where it should take us. A great body of work.

Second Place

*North Texas Catholic Magazine, “From Gangsta to Gospel; When the Sun Danced; The Shepherd Who Didn’t Run; Planes, Circus Trains, and Automobiles; Life is Sacred” by Joan Kurkowski-Gillen*

Excellent storytelling, with compelling photographs to complement. Nicely done. Joan Kurkowski-Gillen displayed the talent and breadth needed by a top writer. Readers were led from the eyes of a “gangsta” rapper and his enlightenment to the inspiration of Our Lady and the sacredness of life. She was on the scene and shared it with readers with quality interviews.

Third Place

*Texas Catholic Herald, “Deep from the Heart of Houston” by James Ramos*
Honorable Mentions

St. Louis Review, “Joseph Kenny”

Arlington Catholic Herald, “Remembering Little Saigon; In the chapel on bended knee; Free medical clinic in Manassas; Life in a country parish; The opioid epidemic” by Zoey Maraist

E14: COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

First Place

USA Midwest Province of the Society of Jesus, “Jeremy Langford”

Jesuits have a history of helping others, especially through education. But in 2017, Jeremy Langford became director of Advancement Communications of the USA Midwest Province of the Society of Jesus and began leading “With Others. For Others.”, a new $25 million campaign for senior Jesuit healthcare. That was in addition to his regular duties as leader of a communications team that continues to develop a stronger outreach and evangelical effort. The Midwest Jesuits use a variety of approaches and platforms to build community. Jesuits Magazine offers a range of reporting and first-person storytelling, and the website gathers many resources for prayer and reflection, including videos. The website for the “With Others. For Others.” capital campaign provides a compelling call to action. The organization's Facebook page also has grown dramatically in the past year, providing another avenue for conversation. The websites are visual, pictures complement the text and don’t distract from it. The overall site is easy to navigate and highlights the mission statement. The sites are not cluttered and have lots of open space. The content is engaging and speaks to the intended audience.

Second Place

Catholic Outlook, “Communications Director of the Year” by Steff Koeneman

Long on energy; short on staff. That probably sums up many Church communications offices, but especially the office in the Diocese of Tucson where Steff Koeneman leads a staff of four, which at the time of judging, had two vacancies. So, in addition to ghost-writing columns, shooting videos and portraits, editing copy and keeping in touch with public media, she also had to lay out the Catholic Outlook and get it off to the printer. Does this require long hours and long weeks? Is the Pope Catholic? The Diocese of Tucson’s website provides comprehensive resources for parishioners, including updates on events; prominent links to education, marriage and other resources to help people deepen their faith; and a “Wednesday Update” blog that responds to current events. It also provides clear resources in English and Spanish to help people report abuse, taking a proactive approach to keeping communities safe. The site has a lot of elements, yet it works. Engaging content and pictures that complement the text. A significant call to action is listed throughout the site. The site’s visual elements are engaging and are prominent on the page. Good use of visuals throughout.
Third Place

ONE Magazine, “Michael J.L. La Civita”

CNEWA’s *One* magazine consistently produces powerful, deeply reported, beautifully written stories and multimedia features about Catholic Eastern churches. The “One to One” blog uses photography, video and welcoming writing to explore not just the magazine’s own work but other reporting from around the region. The work is consistently of top quality—it shows great empathy and helps people understand what can bring them together.

E15: EDITOR OF THE YEAR

First Place

*Catholic San Francisco*, “Editor of the Year” by Rick DelVecchio, editor/general manager of Catholic San Francisco

Rick DelVecchio showed very impressive leadership as an editor of a publication that covered an eventful year in the archdiocese, including wildfires and the death of former archbishops. The product represents professionalism at its finest. Rick DelVecchio of *Catholic San Francisco* was tested in 2017 with wide ranging news events from the California wildfires to the death of two former archbishops to the consecration of the Archdiocese of San Francisco to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. He also enhanced the product with new strategies from a readership study.

Second Place

*The Evangelist*, “Kate Blain”

Kate Blain isn’t just an editor at the Diocese of Albany and *The Evangelist*. In 2017, she WAS *The Evangelist*. Blain kept the top-notch publication up and running not just with the editing duties, circumstances also made her the entire writing staff for part of the year. Besides guiding the multi-honored paper, she also keeps it in the black. That in itself would be reason enough to be this year’s top editor.

Third Place

*Maryknoll magazine*, “Becoming artisans of peace, Flags for peace and justice, Life grows in Haiti gardens, A refuge for peacebuilding, Playing for peace” by Margaret Gaughan

Margaret Gaughan once again sets the bar high for editor leadership. The articles on peace leap off the page and become a living artifact to inspire readers. An exceptional job well done.

Honorable Mentions

ONE Magazine, J.D. Conor Mauro

*The Florida Catholic*, “Editor of the Year” by Jean Gonzalez
E16: ADVERTISING/BUSINESS/MARKETING PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

First Place

*Momentum, “Assistant Director of Marketing Communications, NCEA” by Gabrielle Gallagher, Assistant Director of Marketing Communications, NCEA*

The versatility of the submitted pieces are a tribute to a skilled marketer, who understands the necessary balance between building a quality brand and executing tactical items with intense attention to detail. Gabrielle Gallagher has had an impressive run of accomplishments at NCEA, and continues to set the bar higher.

Second Place

*Northwest Catholic, Keri Hake*

This marketing professional demonstrates a high level of expertise, evident through the broad contributions made and the high quality of the submitted collateral. With a limited budget, Keri Hake helps push Northwest Catholic forward with its advertising goals.

E17: PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

First Place

*St. Louis Review and Catholic St. Louis Magazine, Lisa Johnston*

All images use light well. From window to studio light affects each image’s feel. Highlighting hands consoling the patient, the priest receiving a cup from a child and clergyman giving a farewell kiss are great emotional moments. The variety in subjects is well covered. Although my favorite image is the nuns viewing the eclipse. Stunningly vivid imagery. Astute use of light color and perspective. This body of work represents a keen professional eye and skilled visual storyteller. Excellent!

Second Place

*Catholic Courier, “Photographer of the Year” Jeff Witherow*

Nice use of silhouettes. Great use of layering subjects with things that connect the visual story idea.

Great variety of events. Fun expression on boy in tug-o-war image. I especially enjoy the organ/rose window image framing and color light reflecting on the organ keys. Solid body of work. Creative use of light, color and shadow to shape messaging. Powerful visual storytelling performed by a skilled craftsman.
Third Place

North Texas Catholic Magazine, “Photos of the Year, 2017” by Ben Torres

Great job on layering each image to enhance storytelling. The best of these is the little girl holding the lantern while connecting the newly dedicated statue and Our Lady of Fatima Church surrounding her. The evening image of the statue is well executed under difficult lighting.

Honorable Mention

The Catholic Spirit, St. Paul, MN, “Photographer of the Year” Dave Hrbacek

E18: GRAPHIC ARTIST/DESIGNER OF THE YEAR

First Place

The Catholic Review, “Graphic Artist/Designer of the Year—Sara Travlos”

Enormous versatility and professional design. Solid conceptualization and execution. Exceptional media products. Beautifully done. These works really entice a reader and add to the storytelling in a significant way.

Second Place

Maryknoll magazine, “Becoming Artisans of Peace, Dirty Rivers, Responding to Hunger in Africa, Mission in the City” by Diane Mastrogiulio

Solid concepts and design. Excellent graphic materials. Well done! Good versatility demonstrated here. Nice use of text over graphics to entice the reader.

Third Place

St. Louis Review, “Abigail Witte”

Exceptional conceptualization and design execution. Engaging visual and graphic elements combined to form meaningful communication materials. Stellar, professional work!

Honorable Mentions

The Catholic Miscellany, “Holy week: The days, the history, and the traditions; Setting the sacred table; Protecting creation takes more than just recycling; Does the pope wear a beanie?; Who's Who During Mass” by Caroline Lindsey

Tennessee Register, “In loving memory, Bishop David R. Choby; Faith Alive; Solar Show; Louisville priest to take reins as 12th Bishop of Nashville” by Debbie Lane
E19: VIDEOGRAPHER/VIDEO PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

First Place


This versatile collection of videos provides viewers a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith and is made strong by skillful editing and story boarding. Rich story development and visual variety. Professional and impressive body of work. Exceptional and insightful interviews leave a lasting impression. Well done!

Second Place

_The Catholic University of America, “This is Catholic U” by Jamie Rife, Video Production Coordinator_

These videos facilitate a feeling of community and show the interplay between individual and collective development on a vibrant college campus.

Third Place

_Catholic News Service, “Chaz Muth”_

Solid and technically skilled storytelling. Great shot selection and shot variety create interesting journeys for the viewer. Powerful visuals and keen supporting audio create a rich conduit for story development. Exceptional work!

Honorable Mentions

_The Catholic Miscellany, “Dia de los Muertos; Understanding Holy Week; V Encuentro” by Juanita Bustamante, Video Producer_

_Catholic News Service, “Robert Duncan”_

E20: MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

First Place

_America Media, “Zachary Davis”_

Simply above and beyond. Zac's work shows not only versatility of format, but skill and depth at each one. Stories are told with high production values but also humanity and personality. Amazingly versatile storytelling. Exceptional video and audio production skills. Solid use of mixed multimedia to communicate with and entertain key audiences. Solid and extensive professional portfolio. Excellent example of modern multimedia journalism!
**Second Place**

*Arlington Catholic Herald, “Ashleigh Kassock”*

A very impressive array of storytelling in multiple formats and with different goals. The Arlington Catholic Herald sets a high standard for multimedia stories. Portfolio represents solid multimedia storytelling. Vivid, versatile, and entertaining story development from an interesting and fresh perspective.

**Third Place**

*Catholic News Service, “Chaz Muth”*

Chaz Muth provides the type of multimedia storytelling that everyone should strive to tell. The packages provide strong production values with the human touch and personality to make it engaging, informative and fun to watch. Highly professional body of work. Masterful storytelling. Keen eye for detail and exceptional use of audio to develop the story.

**Honorable Mentions**

*Northwest Catholic, “Sally Evanson”*

*Catholic News Service, The Criterion, “Katie Rutter”*

### E21: SOCIAL MEDIA DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

**First Place**

*Maryknoll magazine, “Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers Facebook” by Megan Fleming*

This individual had a high impact on her organization in very little time by implementing innovative and results-driven social media strategies.

**Second Place**

*ONE Magazine, “Deacon Greg Kandra”*

This individual brings a lot of expertise and specialized skillsets to his work, thus elevating his organization's social media profiles.
E27a: BEST MAGAZINE/NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR: National General Interest Magazines

First Place

*America Media, “America Magazine” by The Editors*

*America* magazine sets an incredibly high bar for intellectualism and spirituality, tackling a vast array of topics from politics to pop culture. The articles and features in these issues feel both contemporary and timeless. Exceptional magazine with well-crafted articles that surprise, enlighten and intrigue. Content mix provides quick hits and depth, and features offer depth and insights on global issues and the everyday.

Second Place

*Claretian Publications, “U.S. Catholic: June, July, August 2017” by U.S. Catholic Editors*

*U.S. Catholic* provides highly relevant and thoughtful-provoking commentary and coverage of Catholic social teaching, social issues and contemporary and historical issues affecting the church and society at large. Reading this magazine is like soaking in a dinner party conversation with your wisest and most thoughtful friends. Excellent publication. Engaging in-depth features. Soundingboard and Feedback sections offer “lighter” fare while touching on topics that people are talking about.

Third Place

*Living City Magazine, “Living City staff”*

Great publication, in scope and quality of editorial content. Creative and lively layout underscores essece and draws in reader. Breadth of topics offers big-picture and daily living perspective.

Honorable Mentions

*St. Anthony Messenger, by John Feister, Editor in Chief Pat McCloskey, OFM, Franciscan Editor Jeanne Kortekamp, Art Director Mary Catherine Kozusko, Art Director (September)*

*Columbia, by Alton J. Pelowski, Andrew J. Matt and Anna M. Bninski*
E27b: BEST MAGAZINE/NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR: Diocesan Magazines

First Place

_Vermont Catholic magazine, by Vermont Catholic magazine staff_

Exceptional—in all aspects. Creative, engaging presentation (design/layout, art, photos, fonts) makes reader want to turn to and read every page. And every page carries relevant, relatable, interesting and valuable content. Issues of this magazine likely are retained for some time as they are coffee-table book caliber.

Second Place

_Catholic St. Louis, by Staff_

Great storytelling, interesting features and columnists, and photography and graphics that complement the text. Excellent publication. Engaging and relevant articles. Great design and layout. Appreciate cutlines that say something, as even brief blurbs can be newsy to provide a rushed reader with a lasting nugget and one that also intrigues reader to read more.

Third Place

_FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, by FAITH Magazine Staff_

This is a visually stunning publication, but it's good not just because of aesthetics; the stories are innovative and meaningful. I think this is very strong work. The Teen Issue was amazing, but I encourage you to make sure you demonstrate racial diversity the next time you create a cover with six teenagers. Clean presentation. Creative layout captivates and draws in reader and makes content shine.

E27c: BEST MAGAZINE/NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR: Mission Magazines (Overseas and Home)

First Place

_ONE Magazine, by Staff_

Year in and year out, this is an appealing magazine that features breath-taking photography, innovative design, and (above all) textbook storytelling. Excellent content and presentation. Clean, crisp, clear, illuminating and inspiring content with exceptional complements via photos, pull quotes and photography.

Second Place

_Comboni Missions, by Kathleen M. Carroll_

Excellent, targeted content that is presented well. Content provides perspective (especially via its “Around the World” section) that bolsters inspiring content.
Third Place

Glenmary Challenge, by John Stegeman, Molly Williamson, Tricia Sarvak and staff

Solid coverage. Consider ways to liven up presentation. For instance, consider ways to more clearly distinguish, differentiate and spotlight standalone elements (cutlines, callout boxes, etc.) that support main content. More varied fonts, for example, can help add excitement. Also consider straying from blocky presentation (nearly every sidebar, photo, etc., is presented in sharp-cornered square or rectangle).

E27d: BEST MAGAZINE/NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR: Religious Order Magazines

First Place

Jesuits Magazine,

This an effective magazine, with good writing. While the photo quality is good, the content of the photos could be stronger—that is, there are many, many staged photos of people standing in groups, smiling for the camera. Let me encourage you to shoot images of people "doing." Crisp, clean, bright, engaging, from the paper to the art, photos, editorial content and design and layout, it is a magazine that beckons readers. Easy to navigate through excellent use of callout boxes, pull quotes, headings and subheads that recap essence and lure reader into stories. Exceptional presentation.

Second Place

Heart to Heart, “Heart to Heart” by Kim Metzgar (note that we only publish two issues a year, not three). I tried to upload both but only one appears.

Great breadth of coverage. Would benefit from design/layout that helps guide readers, such as table of contents and defined sections. Such organization would allow readers to better navigate and identify news topics as well as monastery-, basilica-, seminary- and/or college-specific news.
E27e: BEST MAGAZINE/NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR: Professional and Special-Interest Magazines, including Clergy and Religious

First Place

Couple to Couple League, “Family Foundations” by Ann Gundlach, editor Christina Ries, assistant editor Scott Bruno, designer

This is a visually stunning publication. The production and design company employed by the magazine is obviously top-notch—great evidence for why all publications need design experts. The storytelling is good. One concern that maybe only I have—I'm a 52-year-old married man with two kids who had never been exposed to the acronym "NFP," and from the first page of the "Loud and Clear" issue, it was assumed that I would know: 1) what the letters represent, and 2) and a basis for what it is. I encourage you to communicate with people like me in mind—those who may not have ever been exposed to this terminology before. Family Foundations is a FUN read—and that isn't easily accomplished with the topic of Natural Family Planning. From guys just sharing a beer to information from the clergy, Family Foundations. The topics are wide ranging from big families, to postpartum to men talking about the world of NFP and written well with excellent views from first participant-families, by-lined articles and columnists.

The art, graphics and layout are also top notch and make this a winner. The editors and Couple-to-Couple are to be congratulated.

Second Place

Momentum, “Momentum Magazine 2018” by NCEA, Gabrielle Gallagher, Editor Picante Creative, Design

Incredibly useful, aesthetically stunning and very well-designed. The articles are engaging and exciting for Catholic educators. Momentum covers the world of Catholic education very well. The articles are well written with topics that are of great importance to all teachers. Whether it is reaching out to rural schools or to the underserved Momentum hits its mark. Graphics are also executed well with dioceses in the United States as a quality example. More real people (with cutlines) and less reliance on stock art would be a great addition.

Third Place

HORIZON: Journal of the National Religious Vocation Conference, “HORIZON” by Carol Schuck Scheiber, Editor Patrice Tuohy, Page Designer

From poetry to tips on thriving as a vocation minister to a guide to Catholic teaching on vocation, Horizon covers its topics and concerns greatly. The writing is high quality as are the authors. The publication would be greatly by moving into the world of color on its inside pages.

The cover suffers—although they are nice pictures—with simply landscapes. Also, putting the table of contents on the cover really doesn't serve the readers.
Honorable Mentions


Franciscan Friars of the Atonement—Graymoor, “May 2017, June 2017, and July/August 2017 issues” by Franciscan Friars of the Atonement—Graymoor

E27f: BEST MAGAZINE/NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR: Scholarly Magazines

First Place

Catholic Medical Association, “The Linacre Quarterly” by William V. Williams, MD, editor in chief

Impressive scholarship and informed-opinion articles. The packaging of this academic journal is strong, and it's well-edited. The Linacre has great depth and breadth in its reach. The quality articles and interesting and well researched. Topics such as "Effects of short-term medical mission trips;" to opinion pieces on breastfeeding; and Pope Paul II and determination of death are insightful and good reading.

Second Place

American Catholic Studies, “American Catholic Studies, Volume 128, Numbers 1, 2, 3 (Spring, Summer, Fall 2017)” by Co-Editors: Rodger Van Allen and Thomas Rzeznik; Associate Editors: Nicholas Rademacher, Brett Grainger, Margaret McGuinness; Managing Editor: Leigh Anne McCabe

Excellent work in encouraging (inviting) meaningful historic research. The material is presented professionally, and it's obvious that publication in this journal is considered an honor bestowed only upon those who undertake rigorous scholarship. Pieces on the beatification of Monsignor Romero, historical perspective, the efforts needed for success at Peter Claver School in Philadelphia and book reviews all join to make "American Catholic Studies" a top-notch scholarly publication.

Third Place

Catholic Southwest, “2017 issue of Catholic Southwest, A Journal of History and Culture” by Richard Fossey, Editor

A valuable resource for historical researchers and those who might interested in their work. The journal is presented very professionally, with emphasis placed on visuals that complement the narratives. Well-done! From memorials to book reviews, Southwest Catholic delivers good reading and the inclusion of photos aid the reader greatly.
Magazine Division

M01a: BEST COVER: 4-color, large (over 6 x 9 1/2")

First Place

ONE Magazine, “March 2017 edition” by Staff


Second Place

FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “FAITH May 2017” by Pat Dally

A very direct and arresting portrait and use of headline typography to get the viewer's attention.

Third Place

Vermont Catholic magazine, “Spring 2017” by Monica Koskiniemi

An inspiring and creative use of negative space and theme to illustrate the Year of Creation.

Honorable Mentions

ONE Magazine, “December 2017 edition” by Staff

America Media, “The Lives Beyond the Wall (January 23, 2017)” by Shawn Tripoli

M01b: BEST COVER: 4-color, small (up to 6 x 9 1/2”)

First Place

Maryknoll magazine, “Going Forth” by Diane Mastrogiulio Sean Sprague

Simple, powerful and captivating cover for a magazine. This grabs attention and draws the viewer in.

Second Place

Maryknoll magazine, “Seeing and Believing in Peru” by Nile Sprague Diane Mastrogiulio

A powerful and effective use of portrait photography to capture attention.
Third Place

*Catholic Southwest, “Bishop Medeiros walking with his flock: Front Cover of 2017 issue of Catholic Southwest” by Father Richard Gribble, Cindy Howell, Richard Fossey*

A powerful and effective use of a historical photo.

**M01c: BEST COVER: Black and white, any size**

First Place

*North Texas Catholic Magazine, “No Greater Love” by Juan Guajardo, Susan Moses, Rosa Rosales*

Simple, captivating and powerful.

Second Place

*SALUTE, “Summer 2017 Edition” by Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, President of the Editorial Board; Monsignor John J.M. Foster, Editorial Director; Jo Ann Redmond, Editor*

The choice of photo and text immediately captures attention.

**M03a: BEST ESSAY: National General Interest Magazine**

First Place

*Claretian Publications, “Lingering in the doorway” by Claire Zulkey*

Well written, practical, and real. This will be helpful to young parents who struggle with giving their children a firm foundation in faith.

Second Place


Well laid out, clear and precise. An important topic and apt use of the 12-step program. This will benefit anyone who reads it.
Third Place

*St. Anthony Messenger, “The Rat Beneath the Bed” by John J. McLaughlin*

Beautiful written, clear and to the point. An important story to help better understand the value of an international service/immersion trip.

Honorable Mentions

*America Media, “Lords of Charity” by Nathan Schneider*

*America Media, “A life of service is never easy. Having autism makes it even harder.” by Gus Hardy*

M04: BEST EDITORIAL

First Place

*America Media, “Catholics Must Combat Racism and Bigotry at Every Turn” by The Editors*

Excellent, concise persuasive editorial writing with clarity on a complex and important topic.

Second Place

*America Media, “President Trump’s Dangerous Nationalism” by The Editors*

Excellent, directly written editorial that addresses a core problem in American society.

Third Place

*St. Anthony Messenger, “Ten Ways to Heal Our Nation” by The Editors*

Excellent, concise overview of several timely issues at the intersection of Catholicism and democracy.

Honorable Mention

*Family Foundations, “On the other side of fertility” by Ann Gundlach, editor*

M05a: BEST REGULAR COLUMN: M05a: Spiritual Life

First Place

*Angelus, “Crux” by Heather King*

Standout set of entries featuring well-written content regarding important issues of the day.
Second Place

*America Media, “The Good Word by Terrence Klein” by Terrence Klein*

Great insight in this very well-written set of entries.

Third Place

*Catholic Digest, “Will I see my relatives in heaven?; Do I need to confess the abuse I endured?; Why did my husband die so young?” by Fr. Roland Guilmain, AA; Msgr. Stuart Swetland, STD*

Very well written and topic set of Q&A.

Honorable Mentions

*FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “Theology 101” by Doug Culp*

*North Texas Catholic Magazine, “Growing as a Christian” by Jeff Hedglen*

M05b: BEST REGULAR COLUMN: General Commentary

First Place

*America Media, “Of Many Things” by Matt Malone, S.J.*

Great writing and insight in this excellent set of columns.

Second Place

*Maryknoll magazine, “NONVIOLENCE AS A STYLE OF POLITICS, ZERO HUNGER GENERATION, TARGETING PROTECTED STATUS” by Susan Gunn*

Excellent, insightful commentary on important issues of the day.

Third Place

*FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “From the Editor” by Fr. Dwight Ezop*

Fresh perspectives on important topics.
M05c: BEST REGULAR COLUMN: Family Life

First Place

America Media, “Simcha Fisher” by Simcha Fisher

Excellent writing on interesting set of important issues.

Second Place

Angelus, “With Grace” by Grazie Pozo Christie

Interesting approach to this set of topics in a very clearly written manner.

Third Place

The Catholic Review, “The Domestic Church” by Rita Buettner

Very well-written set of entries examining important issues with resonance.

Honorable Mentions

Family Foundations, “Love & Marriage” by Father John Floeder, author; Ann Gundlach, editor; Christina Ries, assistant editor

Claretian Publications, “At Home with Our Faith: April, May, October 2017 U.S. Catholic” by Annemarie Scobey

M05d: BEST REGULAR COLUMN: Bishop's column in a diocesan magazine

First Place

Angelus, “New World of Faith” by Archbishop José H. Gomez

Excellent writing addressing important, topical issues.

Second Place

New Earth Magazine, “Most Reverend John Folda—Bishop of Fargo” by Most Reverend John Folda, Bishop of Fargo; Paul Braun, Editor New Earth Magazine; Kristina Lahr, Asst. Editor New Earth Magazine

Very well-written set of columns explore important topics in engaging manner.
Third Place

The Catholic Review, “Charity in Truth” by Archbishop William E. Lori

Interesting writing addressing important issues.

Honorable Mentions

Northwest Catholic, “Evolution, Kerygma, gnostic gospels” by Bishop Daniel H. Mueggenborg

Catholic Connection, “Bishop’s Reflection” by Bishop Michael G. Duca

M05e: BEST REGULAR COLUMN: Religious life

First Place


Excellent, engaging writing.

Second Place

Parable Magazine, “The Rest of the Week” by Reverend Andrew Nelson

Very relatable, readable set of columns.

Third Place

E-Service Newsletter, “Message of the Provincial” by Fr. Tim Zak, SDB

Great insight in this set of columns.

Honorable Mention

M05f: BEST REGULAR COLUMN: best arts, leisure, culture, & food column

First Place

Claretian Publications, “Culture in Context: September, October, November 2017 U.S. Catholic” by Pamela Hill Nettleton, Jessica Mesman Griffith, Danny Duncan Collum

Excellent set of entertainment criticism columns.

Second Place

Health Progress, “The Social Dimension of Health Care Ethics; Preaching the Good News; Charlie Gard and Baby Sam: Heartbreaking Cases Test Ethics and Public Policy” by Fr. Charles Bouchard

Excellent work illuminating densely conceptual ethical topics.

Third Place

America Media, “Bill McGarvey” by Bill McGarvey

Excellent job merging newsworthiness, writing and effective storytelling.

Honorable Mention

Catholic Connection, “Faithful Food” by Kim Long

M06b: BEST SINGLE PHOTO: Color

First Place

ONE Magazine, “Priest vesting in Tarashcha, Ukraine” by Ivan Chernichkin

The symmetry and lighting of the image beautifully paint the vesting priest in a similar light as the two figures that surround the doorway.

Second Place

ONE Magazine, “Young parishioner at Holy Savior Catholic Cathedral in Adigrat, Ethiopia” by Petterik Wiggers

The striking eyes and framing of the girl’s portrait seem to portray a variety of emotions: exhaustion, determination, sorrow, longing, etc., all of which also seem to match the story "Feeding Faith in Ethiopia" could tell.
Third Place

*St. Norbert College Magazine, “Hark the Glad Sound!” by Jerry Turba, Photographer Laura Treichel, Art Director Susan Allen, Editor The St. Norbert Abbey Communications Team*

The perspective is extremely unique and highlights not only the size and quantity of the bells, but the intricacy of the engravings and the mechanism that runs them. The colors of the aging bells are are also nicely offset by the whites of the priests robes, and although older show through as bright and vibrant.

Honorable Mentions

*ONE Magazine, “Students and priest under a tree in Ethiopia” by Petterik Wiggers*

*FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “Walking the Streets of one of America’s Poorest Cities” by Photographer Jim Luning*

**M06d: BEST SINGLE PHOTO: BEST PHOTOGRAPH- Portrait**

First Place

*The Catholic Review, “Unexpected Miracle” by Kevin J. Parks*

The portrait is cleanly lit, softened nicely and shows a mirror of emotion from both mother and son.

Second Place

*FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “I Will Be Ready’, Gordon Waits for God to Call Him Home” by Photographer Jim Luning*

The lighting softens the subject and story in a white light as well as brings sense of stark realization to the forefront of the readers perception of what's to come.

Third Place

*FAITH along Michigan's 45th parallel, “Curtis Chambers” by Christine Grosser*

The image is extremely simple, clean and pairs well with it's symmetric, humble and clean headline presentation.

Honorable Mentions

*Catholic St. Louis, “Life of prayer” by Lisa Johnston*

*FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “Carl Embraces both Faith and Science Each Day” by Photographer Jim Luning*
M06e: BEST SINGLE PHOTO: BEST PHOTOGRAPH - Photo Illustration

First Place

*Columbia*, “The Age of Noise” by Sean Scanlin/eyefull.tv

The illustration accurately describes the content of the story with layers of blur, lighting and focus.

Second Place

*America Media*, “What do you do with the mad that you feel?” by Shawn Tripoli

The illustration shows great variety with use of color, facial expression of portraits chosen, placement and illustrated features bringing all pieces together.

M07a: BEST PHOTO STORY: News Photo Story

First Place

*The Catholic Review*, “Scenes from a Farewell” by Kevin J. Parks

The photo essay give a complete story of Cardinal William H. Keeler. There is a clear storyline from multiple perspectives that pull together accounts from loved ones and others highlighting the importance with which they held the Cardinal.

Second Place

*FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing*, “FAITHFest 17 Draws Thousands for Music, Mass and Fun” by Photographer Don Quillan

The images show a sense of community gathered around both entertainment and proceedings of the event as well as a diversity in ages and perspectives.

M07b: BEST PHOTO STORY: Feature Photo Story

First Place

*Extension magazine*, “Indian Days” by Rich Kalonick (photographer), Elio Leturia (layout), Liz Boo (text)

The story told shows a vibrant array of images that highlight the unity and bond of culture and belief between the participants. From traditional Catholic mass to traditional Native American dress and activities the photo essay paints a picture of the differences we all overcome to live and, participate in our communities.
Second Place

VISION Vocation Guide, “Proud family watches sister’s first steps” by Photos by Noel Marcantel. Text by Carol Schuck Scheiber.

This personal story of one sister’s journey is clearly told through the order of presentation. From contemplation to pride and joy over a new beginning for Sister Marie Protectrice de la Foi, it can all be seen through the images selected.

Third Place

St. Anthony Messenger, “Box of Joy Ministry” by Susan Hines-Brigger

While not a huge variety in image type, the flow of images from volunteers boxing, to families and children opening their gifts, gives the full story and experience of what a special holiday time it was for those involved.

Honorable Mention

ONE Magazine, “Focus, June 2017” by John E. Kozar

M07b: BEST PHOTO STORY: Feature Photo Story

Honorable Mention

Faith Saginaw, “The Relics of St. Padre Pio: Thousands are Drawn to the Cathedral to See and Pray” by Danielle McGrew Tenbusch

M08a: BEST MULTIPLE PICTURE PACKAGE: News Package

First Place

Columbia, “A Natural Response” by Jonathan Bachman, Rocky Kneten and Tom Tracy

Grouping of images covered all aspects of hurricane effects and relief efforts. Nice opening shot of the neighborhood under water.

Second Place

Angelus, “Beyond numbers” by Víctor Alemán

Great cover shot homeless man’s expression layered with ripped jacket, dirty socks with holes and sidewalk tents in the background. Lots of faces of the homeless shown.
Third Place

*Soul Magazine*, “The Queen of Heaven takes Britain by Storm” by Barb Ernster, Vince Covello, Patrick Sabat, Donal Anthony Foley, David Carollo

Nice overall views and interesting detail shot of Cardinal crowning statue.

**M08b : BEST MULTIPLE PICTURE PACKAGE: Feature Package**

First Place

*Catholic St. Louis*, “Life of prayer” by Lisa Johnston, Dave Luecking

Technically excellent images. Lighting is beautiful. Great variety of Sr. Elizabeth's everyday life and connection to prayer.

Second Place

*ONE Magazine*, “Head of the Class” by Petterik Wiggers

Nice opening image layered with athletic field behind Abba Berhanu Woemago and student. My favorite image of the group is of Kidist Kassahun studying in her room.

Third Place

*Columbia*, “Ancient Splendor Renewed” by Mallio Falcioni, L'Osservatore Romano, Paul Haring

Each image highlights detail of the crucifix being restored and displayed. The tight cover shot shows the texture and character of the restored face.

**M08d: BEST MULTIPLE PICTURE PACKAGE: Share the Journey Package**

First Place

*ONE Magazine*, “Hard Choices” by Raed Rafei

Nice layered image of Sister Luma Khudher reflecting in damaged church. Works well with layout and framed nicely. Great detail shot of damaged crucifix. While there were only two entries in this category, the first place winner was well deserving of the win. A strong collection of individual images with an excellent quality of light throughout, combined with a well balanced layout and placement of text made this one a winner.

Second Place

*E-Service Newsletter*, “April in Champaign” by Dave Devall, Fr. Mike Mendl, Mary Tate

Good variety. Images need to be in closer to subjects. Nice collection of images.
M10a: BEST SPECIAL ISSUE, SECTION, OR SUPPLEMENT: Special issue

First Place


Excellent cover that would draw attention from anyone who loves food. Excellent articles that tie in pop culture, like Madam Secretary.

Second Place

Soul Magazine, “Fatima 100 Years of Grace” by Barb Ernster, Rachel Matero, Vince Carollo, David Carollo, Megan R. Pritchard

Excellent historical dive into a miracle. Amazing example of the power of research—historical photos and accounts are of highest quality. Timelines are innovative.

Third Place

FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “Oct-17” by FAITH magazine staff

Great focus for a special section. Anything that can encourage teens to be better citizens should be done as part of the Catholic mission. Good sense of understanding how teens read—they don’t like a lot of text but do like a lot of visuals and graphics.

Honorable Mentions

America Media, “The Health of Health Care (June 12, 2017)” by The Editors

Health Progress, “Building Virtues in Life Leads to ‘Good Death’” by Fr. Thomas Nairn, OFM, PhD

M11: BEST INTERVIEW

First Place

Living Unbound, “Our House Dances With the Wind” by Tristan John Cabrera and Larry Livingston

This story provides a fascinating glimpse into the underprivileged but beautiful lives of a family that is grateful for support from abroad. The images are a powerful complement to strong writing and first-person quotes.

Second Place

FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “‘I Will Be Ready’, Gordon Waits for God to Call Him Home” by Rose Robertson
This story provides a humbling glimpse into a graceful end-of-life experience. The images, writing, and first-person quotes work hand in hand to leave a lasting impact on the reader.

Third Place


This story sets itself apart because it emphasizes personal beliefs and shows them in action, leaving readers inspired.

Honorable Mentions

Living City Magazine, “Life to the full” by Susanne Janssen

Maryknoll magazine, “Mission of Love in Korea” by Maria-Pia Negro Chin

M12a: BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE: Religious leader

First Place

Columbia, “Where They Need Me” by Roy Wenzl

Not only is the subject a marvelous example of a chaplain devoted to serving God and his fellow man, but this is an exceptionally well-written account of the man and his deeds. Insightful quotes keep readers focused, and the story stays focused, on this dedicated chaplain in life and death.

Second Place

Columbia, “The Solid and Sturdy Bridge” by Paul Nguyen Hoai Duc, with an introduction by Columbia staff

What a wonderful example of following the faith even if the trail leads through solitary confinement in a Vietnam reeducation camp and then exile. The use of an introduction works because we get the necessary background without breaking into the first person account that follows. Well done.

Third Place

Living City Magazine, “The window-washing priest” by Susanne Janssen

It's tough being a priest when you must be ordained in secret and then spend the next 10 years not listening to confessions, but listening to the swish of your window washing equipment. When Miloglav Vlk eventually was able to follow his chosen vocation this well written piece offers insights into how he saw being a laborer actually allowed him to serve others and prepared him to serve others as a priest when he finally was allowed to openly practice his religion.

Honorable Mention

**M12c: BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE: Government leader**

**First Place**

Santa Clara Magazine, “For the Record” by Justin Gerdes, Writer Robert Clark, Photographer Steven Boyd Saum, Editor Ron Hansen, Literary Editor Matt Morgan, Assistant Editor Linda Degastaldi, Creative Director Jane Hambleton, Designer DJ Stout and Kristen Keiser / Pentagram Austin, Design Consult

DuPont. BP oil spill. Volkswagen. All landmark environmental issues and right in the middle of them all was John C. Cruden, who served for nearly 25 years in the Department of Justice's Environmental and Natural Resources Division. This excellently written and organized piece focuses on Cruden's work for the environment but also takes us deeper into the life of this man who served in Vietnam, where he decided to go into law and actually took the LSAT. He later became a military lawyer before accepting a job in Washington. What makes this story noteworthy and readable is the careful blending of biography, history and insightful quotes from Cruden.

**Second Place**

Columbia, “Legacy of a Pro-Life Giant” by O. Carter Snead

The author captures the zeal and determination the late Henry J. Hyde gave to championing the rights of unborn children. And he needed all that dedication because Hyde became a congressman a year after *Roe v. Wade*. Hyde did succeed in writing legislation preventing Medicaid funds from being used to pay for abortions and continued working with the Knights of Columbus on abortion issues. Articles such as this one will keep Hyde's name relevant despite his death in 2007.

**M12d: BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE: Person of interest**

**First Place**

American Catholic Studies, “Bill Hansen: A Catholic Activist in the Civil Rights Movement” by Paul T. Murray

Anyone ever hear of Bill Hansen? Freedom Rider, NAACP, CORE, SNCC, sit ins, mobs, beatings, prison, dodging rocks, bottles, eggs. Yes, that Bill Hansen. Probably still never heard of him. This tightly to-the-point piece acquaints us with this early civil rights leader who even had to battle his mother to maintain his belief of equality. None of it was easy. This is a must read account of a Catholic who left much of his upbringing, including the church, to wave the banner of freedom in defiance of those who felt freedom of choice was a room reserved for whites.
Second Place

FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “Walking the Streets of one of America’s Poorest Cities” by Patrick O’Brien

This is poverty: income, bad housing, low job skills, low educational achievement, lack of God in your life. Deacon Mike Martin learns to ease all of these walking the streets of Flint’s east side. And the author of this superbly told story takes us along as Martin finds and tries to unravel the maze of need. Sharp pictures add to our understanding of poverty.

Third Place

Maryknoll magazine, “A lifetime of healing” by Mary Ellen Manz, M.M.

Shoe-sucking mud. Confusing new languages. Terrifying bombings. Health-sapping poverty. Meet the world of Sister Joan Sauvigae in this nicely written tribute that takes us through South Korea, Kenya, South Sudan and finally to her current assignment in New York. A sensitive look at a sensitive person convinced that the most direct route to God is through His most needy children.

Honorable Mentions

American Catholic Studies, “A Completely Fresh Reappraisal of War”: Americanism, Radicalism, and the Catholic Pacifism of Gordon Zahn” by Benjamin T. Peters

America Media, “El Sueño Americano de Junot Díaz” by Olga Segura

M13: BEST COVERAGE OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY ISSUES

First Place

Columbia, “The Knights vs. the Klan, On the Edge Between Life and Death, The Witness of Blood” by Kevin Coyne, Doreen Abi Raad and Mike Stechschulte

Second Place

ONE Magazine, “Hard Choices; Planting Seeds, Nurturing Faith; Anxiety in Cairo” by Raed Rafei, Mark Raczkiewycz, Magdy Samaan, David Degner

Third Place

Angelus, “Pulpit politics,” “The inviolable dignity of all human beings,” “Trump administration makes overseas religious freedom a priority” by Peter Jesserer Smith, Grazie Pozo Christie
M18: BEST COVERAGE OF IMMIGRATION

First Place

Angelus, “Fear in the Valley of Tears,” “Why Reform,” “An Asylum Seeker's Story” by J.D. Long-García, Peter Jesserer Smith, R.W. Dellinger, Victor Alemán

This is a good example of powerful storytelling. The topic of farming is newsworthy and part of the national conversation. The subjects of the story are a powerful face of immigration. But what makes this story stand out is the attention to dignity and how it impacts immigration. Excellent analysis.

Second Place

ONE Magazine, “No Place Like Home; Found in Translation; Hardship and Hospitality” by Emeline Wuilbercq, Michele Chabin, Raed Rafei

The scope of the project covers a wide range of immigration stories. The characters are engaging and put a powerful face on the issue of immigration. The author took time to research and develop each character for the reader. Compelling stories and powerful imagery.

Third Place

Health Progress, “Immigrants and Refugees At Risk” by Mary Ann Steiner, Lilah Lohr Les Stock

Interesting approach to immigration health. But it reads more like a general overview of the issue. There are so many stories to tell in-depth. It would have been nice to see pictures of the subjects profiled and more imagery.

Honorable Mentions

FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “FAITH Immigration Coverage” by Denyse Shannon, Nancy Rosebush Schertzing and FAITH magazine staff

America Media, “Miscellaneous” by Jan Albert Hootsen; Cecilia González-Andrieu; The Editors

M20: BEST REPORTING ON VOCATIONS TO PRIESTHOOD, RELIGIOUS LIFE OR DIACONATE

First Place

NC Catholics, “Configured Forever” by Kate Turgeon Watson

The decision to become a priest was difficult—after all he had a girlfriend. But this compelling story then lets us know that Father Johnson had an even more difficult decision: Should he continue in the priesthood after being told he had an inoperable brain tumor? He said yes and he’s still serving. A nicely crafted story that compels us to read to the end.
Second Place

HORIZON: Journal of the National Religious Vocation Conference, “Why I value religious life” by Jennifer Tomshack

How the dedication to a spiritual life of others affects us is nicely laid out by the author who recounts her lifelong encounters with those willing to extend themselves to practice what is preached on Sundays, going out of our way to help. But rather than the all-too-often and rather boring chronological approach, she begins toward the end—college life—because that impacted her, and later her entire family, the most. An easy-to-read affirmation of how our lives affect others in ways we may never know.

Third Place

FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “Learning to Trust God’s Call, Tyler Is in His First Year of Seminary” by Michael Spath

The enlightenment that leads to become a priest doesn’t come like a bolt of lightning, more like the increased light at sunrise. That is just one of the useful insights discovered by the author of this valuable and well-written article about a life-changing decision. The patience and discernment needed is useful to anyone seeking guidance,

Honorable Mentions

Maryknoll magazine, “FINDING HEART IN MISSION” by Lynn F. Monahan

Northwest Catholic, “That little nun” by Anna Weaver

M21: BEST REVIEW

First Place

Freelance, “Powerful Pro-life Film is Already Saving Lives” by Karen Mahoney

This review of the film, “Alison’s Choice” provides readers the essence of the story but includes extremely clever lines that not only move the film along, but also punch up the review. And, as a bonus feature, we get a behind-the-scenes look at the writing, producing and distribution of a strong pro-life film at a time when many prefer neutrality. A powerfully written review about a powerfully written film.

Second Place

America Media, “How did she lose? Bob Shrum on Hillary Clinton and the 2016 election” by Robert M. Shrum

What counts is not what you say, but what people hear. That’s just one of many astute comments in this review of Hillary Clinton’s highly publicized book, “What Happened,” by Bob Shrum, who appreciates the book and author but adds his own observations based in part on his advisory role to Al Gore who also won the vote but lost the election. A marvelously frank look at both the election and the new winner/loser.
Third Place

America Media, “Reflecting on the frightening lessons of ‘The Handmaid’s Tale’” by Eloise Blondiau

What is woman? Specifically, what is Mary? And even more specifically, what is a handmaiden? Reviewer Eloise Blondiau insists that a rather rigid view of the heavenly Mary can lead to narrowing her role and life to the hellish point of the book and TV series, “Handmaiden,” where women are that they might have children. They are as Blondiau notes, “a walking womb.” A review that soars far beyond the Hulu series to land in our hearts and brains.

Honorable Mentions


American Catholic Studies, “Book Review—Dorothy Day, the World Will Be Saved by Beauty: An Intimate Portrait of My Grandmother, by Kate Hennessy” reviewed by Tom Cornell

M22: BEST BOOK REVIEW SECTION

First Place


Second Place


Third Place

America Media, “13-Nov-17” by James Keane

Honorable Mention

Catholic Southwest, A Journal of History and Culture, “Book Review Section of 2017 issue of Catholic Southwest” by Thomas Jodziewicz

M23a: BEST IN-DEPTH/ANALYSIS WRITING: Best In-Depth Writing

First Place
Columbia, “The Knights vs. the Klan” by Kevin Coyne

This article stood out for its ability to revisit history in a storytelling manner that allows the facts not to overload the reader but rather allow the reader insight into how complex situations unfolded distinguishing between fact and fiction in a compelling and engaging way.

Second Place

America Media, “Looking for hope in Gaza” by Matt Malone, S.J.

The author creates a very interesting and unique perspective on an often talked about but rarely seen part of the world using firsthand experience, retold vividly as well as backed by investigation.

Third Place

ONE Magazine, “Anxiety in Cairo” by Magdy Samaan

The author was able to show a large issue through an individual's experience, while broadening the scope through solid research.

Honorable Mentions
ONE Magazine, “Hard Choices” by Raed Rafei

FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “Immigration Special Report” by FAITH staff

M23b: BEST IN-DEPTH/ANALYSIS WRITING: Best Analysis Writing

First Place

America Media, “Christianity’s Russian Temptation” by Sohrab Ahmari

This article stood out for both the depth of its investigation and its ability to explain very nuanced political and theological positions that did not simplify the complexity of the situation while still clarifying it in such a way as to make it accessible to the everyday reader.

Second Place

Glenmary Challenge, “1 Body in Christ” by John Stegeman
An inspiring story, told through a clear writer's voice focused on presenting an honest portrayal of both sides of the issue, with great use of the interview to compel the story.

Third Place

Santa Clara Magazine, “Artificial Intelligence and Public Trust” by Shannon Vallor, Writer Josh Cochran, Illustrator Steven Boyd Saum, Editor Ron Hansen, Literary Editor Matt Morgan, Associate Editor Jane Hambleton, Designer DJ Stout and Kristen Keiser / Pentagram Austin, Design Consultants

Author's writing made a difficult-to-understand topic more relatable to the reader in a way that could appeal to readers with or without knowledge of artificial intelligence. Clear, detailed writing made for a very interesting read.

Honorable Mention

North Texas Catholic Magazine, “Seeing with the Heart of Jesus” by Susan Moses and Juan Guajardo


M24a: BEST FEATURE ARTICLE: National General Interest Magazine

First Place

America Media, “Lessons on evangelization from the largest parish in the United States” by Leah Libresco

Excellent sense of people and place.

Second Place

America Media, “When a Jew and a Catholic Marry” by Mark Oppenheimer

Thought-provoking article. Nice selection of subjects and good flow.

Third Place
Claretian Publications, “First you survive” by Gwen McClure

Well-written with excellent incorporation of information and quotations. Solid story.

Honorable Mention

America Media, “Walking with Peter” by Michael J. O’Loughlin

Thorough and varied coverage

M24b: BEST FEATURE ARTICLE: Diocesan Magazine

First Place

The East Tennessee Catholic Magazine, “Reaching Out From Ground Zero” by Bill Brewer

Beautiful, well-rounded coverage. A pleasure to read and subjects and locations come alive.

Second Place

Angelus, “Moms in prison” by R.W. Dellinger

Environmental details and subjects’ emotions and personalities are expressed well and greatly enhance the overall purpose of the article.

Third Place

FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “Walking the Streets of one of America’s Poorest Cities” by Patrick O’Brien

Good flow, well-written, satisfying conclusion,

M24c: BEST FEATURE ARTICLE: Mission Magazine (Overseas and Home)

First Place

Comboni Missions, “The Miracle of Fatima” by Kathleen M. Carroll
Enthralling read rich with details and sense of place.

Second Place

*Maryknoll magazine, “SON, PRAY FOR ME” by David R. Aquije*

Excellent incorporation of subjects' experiences to illustrate the greater story.

Third Place

*Northwest Catholic, “Living under Jesus’ roof” by Kevin Birnbaum*

Enjoyable read and great use of language.

M24d: BEST FEATURE ARTICLE: Religious Order Magazine

First Place

*Jesuits Magazine, “With Others. For Others” by*

Nice coverage of a perhaps often overlooked need. Quotes provide liveliness and a sense of place.

Second Place

*E-Service Newsletter, “Catholic Communicators meet in Quebec” by Fr. Mike Mendl, SDB*

Well-rounded and cohesive article with several good takeaways for communicators.

Third Place

*E-Service Newsletter, “It’s a Girl!” by Bro. Rob Malusa, SDB*

Interesting details of both the project and how the local people are using and benefiting from it.

M24e: BEST FEATURE ARTICLE: Professional & Special Interest Magazine, Including Clergy & Religious

First Place
Health Progress, “Knowledge Is Key for Safety-Net Providers: Undocumented Patients May Not Know Their Health-Related and Legal Rights” by Nancy Berlinger, PhD Laura Guidry-Grimes, PhD Adira Hulkower, JD

Thorough and incredibly interesting and informative read. Nice divisions and bulleted information.

Second Place

Health Progress, “Children Who Give Care Are Overlooked” by David Lewellen

Excellent coverage of the topic. Nice lead and use of examples.

Third Place

Health Progress, “What is Your Name?‘ Looking for Humanity In the Heroin Epidemic” by Laura McKinnis, APNP

Honorable Mention

Health Progress, “Universities Seek DACA Recipient Strategies: Support, Advocacy For Medical Students” by Mark Kuczewski, PhD Sunny Nakae, MSW, PhD

M24: BEST FEATURE ARTICLE: Scholarly Magazine

First Place

American Catholic Studies, “Our Dear Houses Are Here, There + Every Where”: The Convent Revolution in Antebellum America” by Joseph G. Mannard

Excellent use of historical facts to develop the article and elaborate on changes both in the religious and secular culture of the time.

Second Place

The Linacre Quarterly, Catholic Medical Association, “Devastating Consequences of Sex Trafficking on Women’s Health” by Fr. James McTavish, F.M.V.D., M.D.

A highly relevant article with extensive details covering the many facets of identifying sex trafficking and helping its victims to heal. Nicely organized.

Third Place
American Catholic Studies, “An Illustrated Framework for the History of Catholic Immigrant Aid Societies” by Mary Elizabeth Brown

Good use of historical facts and political/cultural events to show the need for and effects of Catholic services to immigrants.

M24g: BEST FEATURE ARTICLE: Prayer & Spirituality Magazine

First Place

Signs and Wonders for Our Times, “Holy Angels at Work: Why Consecration to Your Guardian Angel is Important for These Times” by Joseph Albino

Good use of personal experience to illustrate the topic and answer questions readers might have about consecration to your guardian angel.

Second Place

Soul Magazine, “A tribute to my father – a witness to the miracle of the sun” by Alice Reis Israel, Barb Ernster, Rachel Matero

This article has nice historical context and interest and illustrates how such an experience can influence someone's life.

M24h: BEST FEATURE ARTICLE: Newsletter

First Place

Sharing & Caring, “Si, Senor” by Mary Knapke

This story shows an example of devoted service, hitting a fine balance between narrative and detail.

Second Place

HNP Today, “Collaborative Breakfast a Hit with Breadline Guests”

This story puts readers right in the middle of a hopeful and empowered service community. It benefits from candid images and compelling quotes.
Third Place

HNP Today, “Friars Settle into New Florida Community” by Jocelyn Thomas

This story introduces readers to a community of friars who are facing change with a positive and hopeful attitude.

M29: BEST REDESIGN

First Place

The Catholic University of America, “Catholic U Magazine” by Kristin Reavey Lara Fredrickson

This redesign elevates the magazine via extraordinary images and a crisp look and feel.

Second Place

Catechist, “Catechist magazine redesign” by DESIGN and ART DIRECTION: Bill Johnson, Ted Schluenderfritz EDITORIAL: Danielle Bean, Publisher; Pat Gohn, Editor CEO: Hugues De Foucauld

This redesign meets the stated objectives. The new look and feel is crisp and inviting to the reader. The images are high quality and impactful.

Third Place

America Media, “America—The Jesuit Review” by America staff

This redesign moved this magazine to a cleaner and more compelling look. Both the external and the internal design look modern and inviting.

M30: BEST COVERAGE OF SHARE THE JOURNEY

First Place

ONE Magazine, “Hard Choices; “When Iraqis Come Home”; No Place Like Home” by Raed Rafei, Emeline Wuilbercq

The story and video about Christian towns rebuilding in Iraq after the defeat of Islamic State involved difficult, nuanced reporting that wove detailed individual stories into the larger political context. The people interviewed felt comfortable enough to open up about their hopes and concerns as they try to restart businesses and raise their families. A descriptive and lively story about a cooking school in Ethiopia showed one promising effort to raise women’s skills and allow them to stay in their home country or return after a period of migration for economic reasons.
Second Place

ONE Magazine, “Hardship and Hospitality; “Love Against All Odds in Zahleh”; The Displaced” by Raed Rafei, Mark Raczkiewycz

The story and video about Syrian Christian refugees in Lebanon tell the powerful story of one family, a Lebanese husband and Syrian wife, as a way to illustrate the possibilities of reconciliation in a tense and economically challenged community. In those pieces and an additional story about internally displaced Ukrainian citizens, people whose fates are too often discussed in abstract policy terms come to the foreground and have an opportunity to share their own experiences.

Third Place

ONE Magazine, “Middle East Christians on the Move, Escaping Syria, Found in Translation” by ONE Editorial Staff, Gayane Abrahamyan, Michele Chabin

An interactive map about the migrations of Middle Eastern Christians uses detailed research to describe the on-the-ground situation in eight different countries, filling in gaps in previous reporting. Accompanying stories about Syrian refugees in Armenia and migrants and refugees in Israel poignantly demonstrate the difficult journeys families have made, both physically and emotionally, as well as the compassion of those who work to support them.

M34: BEST TITLE AND LEAD-IN

First Place

SALUTE, “Army Beats Navy on Hail Mary” by Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, President of the Editorial Board; Monsignor John J.M. Foster, Editorial Director; Jo Ann Redmond, Editor; Taylor Henry, Writer

Title avoids that cliche by leaving out the article (“a”). Very good narrative from the start. Moves right along drawing the reader in with just enough skepticism about the overall tale.

Second Place

Columbia, “The Knights vs. the Klan” by Kevin Coyne

Title raises enough curiosity to draw reader in. The lead-in is just too strong to not go on into to an impressive narrative overall.

Third Place
FAITH along Michigan’s 45th parallel, “All I did was take a walk in the woods” by Chris Jenkins

Title is just short of prosaic -- but just strong enough so reader wants to know what the walk led to. Lead-in strongly grabs reader and narrative keeps you reading.

Honorable Mentions

FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “I will be ready: Gordon waits for God to call him home” by Rose Robertson

FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “Walking the streets of one of America’s poorest cities: What is a deacon from Chelsea doing in Flint?” by Patrick O’Brien

M35: BEST REPORTING ON A SPECIAL AGE GROUP

First Place

America Media, “Ministry and Millennials” by Zac Davis

An outstanding piece of work that features multiple interviews, immersion reporting and strong research. My only non-perfect score was the frequency of first-person writing. Perhaps the publication allows it. To me, it’s a distraction to read so many mentions of the reporter.

Second Place

Catholic St. Louis, “Making service their own” by Jennifer Brinker, Lisa Johnston

Excellent look at the habit of service that goes beyond what is required at some schools. Might have been stronger with some research into the number of hours of service given by some.

Third Place

Northwest Catholic, “Living under Jesus’ roof” by Kevin Birnbaum

Great topic for a story, and the writer did a nice of telling it.

Honorable Mentions

Northwest Catholic, “Making a difference” by Kevin Birnbaum

The Catholic Review, “The Class of 2017” by The Catholic Review Staff
M36: BEST SPORTS REPORTING

First Place

Santa Clara Magazine, “Superman” by Sam Farmer. Sam Farmer, Writer; Sean McCabe, Illustrator; Steven Boyd Saum, Editor; Ron Hansen, Literary Editor; Matt Morgan, Associate Editor; Jane Hambleton, Designer; DJ Stout and Kristen Keiser / Pentagram Austin

Very detailed and highly descriptive writing. Solid story telling that keeps the reader interested and entertained. A compelling sports profile.

Second Place

Northwest Catholic, “Faith, Family, Football” by Anna Weaver

The questions asked of the interview subject are solid and thought-provoking and the interview is interesting, but it's in a Q&A format so there is no opportunity to judge the reporter on their writing ability, only their interviewing/editing ability.

M37: BEST SEASONAL ISSUE OR SECTION

First Place


Highly attractive and eye-catching cover art and good, quality interior layout. Interesting articles tied to the Christmas theme in a wide variety of layout styles. The Ligourian Christmas issue, “Season of Anticipation and Celebrated,” is overfilled with delights like a great Christmas stocking. The “Dear Padre” column calls us to find new tradition, a photo essay from the windows of a plane, an editorial imploring us to “Keep Christ in Christianity” and a fiction item on “A life Wonderfully Lived” is a great piece for this season of reflection.

Topping this gift to readers are the "12 Feast Days of Christmas." This is a wonderful package to open.

Second Place

New Jersey Catholic magazine, “Choir of Angels:Singing for Our Savior” by Kelly Marsicano and Staff
High-quality cover layout and interior design. Cover photo is bright and colorful. Photos and art used in the magazine's interior are also top notch and attention grabbing. The magazine features a nice variety of articles tied to the Christmas holiday in a highly readable layout. The Christmas issue of New Jersey Catholic is a product the Diocese of Newark gave to its readers. Quality graphics and layout and the feature story on an often overlooked aspect of Christmas, the choir, is a treat. The issue also helps with problems of the holidays, such as how to avoid arguments from homes to visit and actions at meals. The tips on inviting folks back to Church are very helpful.

**M38: BEST REPORTING OF THE CELEBRATION OF A SACRAMENT**

**First Place**

FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “In the know with Father Joe,” “Should we baptize our grandchildren in the kitchen sink?” by Fr. Joe Krupp

Very practical advice, presented in a conversational style that would be engaging for any reader.

**Second Place**

Northwest Catholic, “New life, old clothes” by Anna Weaver, Ryan McGAughey, Stephen Brashear

Well-written, well-reported story on the deep history behind a baptismal gown.

**Third Place**


One story, alone, doesn't jump out, but the entire coverage package is outstanding—including profiles of each new priest, and particularly, the sidebar that answers questions of those who might be called to ministry.

**Honorable Mentions**

The Linacre Quarterly, Catholic Medical Association, “Baptism in the ICU” by E. Wesley Ely, M.D., M.P.H.

**FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “From the editor: Fr. Dwight Ezop, ‘The anointing of the sick: God’s sacramental medicine at work”’ by Fr. Dwight Ezop**

**M40: BEST COVERAGE OF VIOLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES**
First Place

_Angelus_, “Hate in America,” “Las Vegas and God,” “The center is not holding” by R.W. Dellinger, Archbishop José H. Gomez, Greg Erlandson

Second Place

_Claretian Publications_, “A prayer for our daily murder,” “In guns we trust,” “Right to life,” by Brian Doyle, Father Allan Fitzgerald, O.S.A., Father Bryan Massingale

Third Place

_America Media_, “A Black (and Blue) Lives Matter protest shows how deep the divide is in Chicago; Las Vegas and the fatalism of “thoughts and prayers” Christianity; Are gun manufacturers and politicians morally complicit in mass shootings?” by Judith Valente Jason Blakely Gerald J. Beyer

M44: BEST COVERAGE OF ECUMENICAL/INTERFAITH ISSUES

First Place

_Claretian Publications_, “No hate, no fear”; “Just friends; Campus ministry,” by Wyatt Massey, Jafar Mahallati, Anna Weaver

Excellent work all around. Captivating storytelling and strong subject matter made for a winning entry.

Second Place

_Liguori Publications_, “The Conversation Continues” by Dennis Emmons, Kathy Coffey, Elizabeth Herzing and Liguori editorial/creative service staff

Excellent writing, and I especially liked the piece on the Franciscan friary and the diverse viewpoints represented.

Third Place

_America Media_, “Cardinal Cupich and Lutheran Bishop Miller commit to reconciliation on Reformation anniversary”; “The House of Abraham”; “A Lutheran’s love letter to Pope Francis” by Angelo Jesus Canta Leopoldo A. Sánchez M. Aana Marie Vigen

All of these pieces were well done, but the love letter to Pope Francis was an especially nice and interesting article.
**Honorable Mention**

Brother Craig says ‘Good Morning’“ by Molly Williamson, Frank Lesko, John Stegeman*

**M47a: BEST LAYOUT OF ARTICLE OR COLUMN: National general interest magazine**

**First Place**

*St. Anthony Messenger, “The Rat Beneath the Bed,” designed by Mary Catherine Kozusko*

This creative story deserved a creative headline, and it’s hard to imagine any more creative that “The Rat Beneath the Bed.” The text flows well, leading the reader. Nice photography. The photos hanging from the line could have been larger. I applaud the designer's choice to keep the rat photo small, which visually duplicates its role in the story. Subtlety works.

**Second Place**

*Columbia, “Gearing Up for Vocations” by Alton J. Pelowski*

From the pun in its main headline to the “power” shot of an automobile, this design replicates a traditional layout featuring cars. Sometimes the more traditional design works. That's certainly the case here. I especially liked the photo of a classic automobile stuffed with priests who were clearly enjoying their ride. It touched their joy.

**Third Place**

*America Media, “The Sickness of the American Soul” by Brian N. Massingale*

The dilemma here for a design team: how to illustrate a dark and totally non-visual subject. The answer was an artist's rendition incorporating elements from the story, using stark red and black illustrations. They opted to keep the illustrations simple letting the visual power of image and color. Of note is the team's choice to repeat elements to unite a long text.

**Honorable Mentions**

*The Catholic University of America, “Teaching Outside the Textbook” by Kristin Reavey*

*Catholic Digest, “Catholic Treasures of Switzerland” by Ted Schluenderfritz*

**M47b: BEST LAYOUT OF ARTICLE OR COLUMN: Diocesan magazine**
First Place

FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “Easter lesson for kids at 375 degrees“ by Pat Dally

Often we ignore articles like this aimed at children and their parents. But there is a lot to say about how we think about kids, and much we can take away from a good design operation. We designers too often give lip service to the theory behind KISS (Keep It Simple, Stupid). Designing or writing for kids has applications to all designers/writers. Here is a nice, clean design for making a nice, clean Easter lesson for kids. By the way, I had to go beyond my assignment, but can tell you the Resurrection Rolls were delicious.

Second Place

FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “Carl embraces both faith and science each day”; “Who can see a conflict in that’?” by Pat Dally

As happens so often this design must make do with what it has available. Because the text is of a man basically doing nothing, it relies on abstract images. What a nice choice was made. A scientist thinking in his cluttered office integrated into a design of geometric shapes in a wonderful color. Religion and science. The design captured both.

Third Place

FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “I will be ready‘: Gordon waits for God to call him home” by Pat Dally

An outstanding design not only must be attractive but must reflect all elements of a story. The text here tells a story of illness, disease, and death; but also love, triumph, and faith. The design team chose to us photography to reflect the story visually, focusing on Gordon Terwilliger and his wife, Margaret. Two of the photos jumped out to me. One was of Terwilliger smiling at his wife; the second was a wonderfully nuanced closeup portrait of him, his look capturing his wonder at facing an uncertain future.

Honorable Mentions

FAITH Catholic Publishing and Communications, “Good Life November 2017“ by Pat Dally

FAITH Catholic Publishing and Communications, “Faith trends by the numbers” by Pat Dally

M47e: BEST LAYOUT OF ARTICLE OR COLUMN: Professional & special interest magazines, including clergy & religious

First Place
Family Foundations, “Sealed with a kiss (and a sacrament)” by Jessica Weinberger, author; Ann Gundlach, editor; Christina Ries, assistant editor

Bold, clean with sidebars, pullouts, and lists making this entry a plethora of information vehicles led to its high ranking. Looking at the graphics alone told a good story. Add the text, and you get a great package. I especially liked one of the subtle points—using a photo of a couple wearing a traditional wedding dress with the groom dressed more casually offered a statement about flexibility.

Second Place

Living Unbound, “Our House Dances With the Wind” by Anne Peetz

This is almost a case of a surplus of riches. Choosing from the spectacular photos must have been tough. With stunning photos (although I would have included at least one focused on an individual dwelling to provide depth in the array), the designer correctly chose to focus on photos. Photos made the story, which was fine by itself. A great use of outstanding photos that illustrated the text well.

Third Place

Health Progress, “Giving Is ‘Where Love and Need Are One’” by Dan McCormack

One of the toughest assignments is illustrating abstract ideas. Here the design team chose to use artwork featuring a story from the beginning of the text. It worked, but wasn’t spectacular. A few smaller illustrations or breakouts would have helped.

M48a: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Life and Dignity of the Human Person

First Place

ONE Magazine, “This Is the Only Light” by Gayane Abrahanyan

From the moment the story begins, readers enter the lives of struggling families in Armenia and the caregivers who support them. The piece allows the Armenian families to tell their stories in their own words, and it beautifully illustrates how everyone involved is enriched by the friendships that form.

Second Place
Columbia, “Stephanie's Fight to Live” by Clara Fox

This story of a terminally ill woman who has become an advocate for other patients explains changing laws around assisted suicide and the surprising pressures patients sometimes face. The details of her example create great compassion for her situation, while the story also clearly explains the broader political context and the Church's response.

Third Place

Faith Erie Magazine, “Leroy finally found a family” by Anne-Marie Welsh

This story of an elderly man who spent most of his life in institutions before being invited to move in with a family is a tearjerker in the best way. As the story progresses, it's impossible not to root for him to gain the home he's always wanted.

M48b: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Call to Family, Community and Participation

First Place

Maryknoll magazine, “Mission in the City” by Kate Macan

This story takes readers on a journey through the eyes of young adults who traveled from their Montana reservation to experience life in Chicago. From their words, readers understand how they were changed by the people they met and the places they visited.

Second Place

The Catholic Review, “Open Hearts” by Paul McMullen

Three profiles of families who welcomed children through adoption show portraits of lives that are vivid and relatable, demystifying the process and showing how everyone involved has been enriched.

Third Place

Faith Erie Magazine, “Be God's hands and feet” by Abby Badach-Doyle

This story combines personal stories and practical advice to explore how outreach efforts succeed—through patience, commitment and a willingness to meet people where they are.
M48c: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Rights and Responsibilities

First Place

*America Media, “The Soul of Our Nation” by Robert W. McElroy*

In the wake of the presidential election, Americans faced crucial questions: Will we be defined by unity or exclusion? Who are “the people”? Where does America's greatness lie? This piece deftly weaves together U.S. history and Catholic social teaching to identify the important dialogue ahead.

Second Place

*Columbia, “A 'Miraculous Way' for Student Moms” by SueAnn Howell*

This piece tells the stories of college students who became pregnant and explains the support they received from their university, which helped them succeed at school while adjusting to being new mothers. The story is full of detailed interviews that explore the challenges and opportunities.

Third Place

*FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “‘I will be ready,’ Gordon waits for God to call him home” by Rose Robertson*

This profile of a man who knows he is nearing the end of his life memorably details his fears and hopes. It is written with empathy and heightened by beautiful photography.

M48d: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

First Place

*Columbia, “Iraq Christians Return Home” by Campbell MacDiarmid*

This story of Iraqi Christians returning to their homes after Islamic State was driven out uses vivid description and memorable details from numerous interviews to help readers experience the village residents’ emotions as they begin the challenging task of rebuilding.

Second Place

*Maryknoll magazine, “FILLING THE HUNGER AT SHALOOM” by Susana Carpenter, MKLM*
A first-person account of teaching at a kindergarten in Tanzania, this story juxtaposes anecdotes about the students' enthusiasm and energy with broader context about how they cope with illness and hunger. The writing is evocative and engaging.

**Third Place**

*ONE Magazine, “Where Hope Is Kindled” by Hazem Balousha*

In Gaza, women struggle for access to adequate health care. This story clearly explains the political and social context, using interviews with mothers and health care workers to demonstrate the human impact.

**Honorable Mentions**

*Maryknoll magazine, “RESPONDING TO HUNGER IN AFRICA” by Lynn F. Monahan*

*ONE Magazine, “Reaching the Margins” by Don Duncan*

**M48e: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Dignity and Rights of the Workers**

**First Place**

*America Media, “A Good Job is Hard to Find” by Rachel Lu*

This story weaves together personal anecdotes, economic research and Catholic social teaching to demonstrate the importance of meaningful work and explain that it is technology, not immigration, that is changing the demand for workers. Detailed and clearly argued, it also offers potential solutions to develop valuable jobs.

**Second Place**

*Angelus, “Fear in the valley of tears” by J.D. Long-Garcia*

This story interviews workers in California's almond groves to explore the fears caused by changing policies on immigration. It also explains the role of the farmworkers union in protecting laborers' rights.

**Third Place**

*Glenmary Challenge, “Cast a wide net” by Molly Williamson*

Seafood workers travel from Mexico to work in North Carolina, where they are far from their families and their home churches. The story explores a world most people rarely witness. Using interviews and descriptive scenes, it illustrates the daunting task of keeping up with work in a seafood-processing plant and contrasts the busy work days with the time they get for reflection when they gather for a church service.
M48f: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Solidarity

First Place

*America Media, “Beyond the Wall” by Ashley McKinless*

As the president touts plans to build a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border, the reporter travels to Latin America to explain the reality: people will still come. In Guatemala City, she talks directly with migrants who explain why they make the harrowing and sometimes deadly journey, and she explains how U.S. policies contribute to the problem.

Second Place

*Santa Clara Magazine, “Courage Central” by Marty Sammon, author — as told to Steven Boyd Saum, Editor; Ron Hansen, Literary Editor; Matt Morgan, Associate Editor; Jane Hambleton, Designer; DJ Stout and Kristen Keiser / Pentagram Austin, Design Consultants*

This first-person account from a paratrooper who helped integrate Little Rock High School gives a unique perspective on an important event in U.S. history.

Third Place

*ONE Magazine, “Charity’s Daughters” by Magdy Samaan*

In Alexandria, Egypt, the Daughters of Charity provide health care to Christians and Muslims, despite current tensions between people of different faiths. The story explains the history of their mission and describes their love for Alexandria and its people. It also shares the voices of parents whose children attend a Daughters of Charity school, creating a rounded picture of the community.

Honorable Mentions

*The Catholic Review, “Work to Do” by Paul McMullen*

*Maryknoll magazine, “FLAGS FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE” by Janice McLaughlin, M.M.*

M48g: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Care for God's Creation

First Place

*Maryknoll magazine, “DIRTY RIVERS” by Maria-Pia Negro Chin*
In parts of Peru, contaminated rivers have lead levels higher than in Flint, Michigan. The story uses detailed research and compelling interviews with both local residents and a Maryknoll-supported activist organization to explain how they are working toward solutions, including confronting mining companies that pollute the rivers.

Second Place

*Santa Clara Magazine, “The Most Important Lawsuit on the Planet” by Deborah Lohse, Writer; Cody Pickens, Photographer; Robin Loznak, Photographer; Steven Boyd Saum, Editor; Ron Hansen, Literary Editor; Matt Morgan, Associate Editor; Jane Hambleton, Designer; DJ Stout and Kristen Keiser / Pentagram Austin, Design Consultants*

This in-depth profile explores how an environmental lawyer is spearheading a lawsuit that asks a U.S. court to require the White House to combat climate change. The story clearly explains environmental science and Supreme Court precedent, and it makes readers believe in the conviction of the man leading the case.

Third Place

*America Media, “The Spirit of Standing Rock” by Eileen Markey*

Through interviews and descriptive scenes, the story explores in detail how Standing Rock has inspired environmental activists of many faiths to find common ground in protecting Earth’s water.

**M49: BEST STORY AND PHOTO PACKAGE**

First Place

*Angelus, “Beyond numbers” by R.W. Dellinger, Victor Alemán*

An incredible amount of research went into the data behind LA’s homelessness issue. That data, paired with the characters personal stories gave a full picture of both policy and outreach changes at work.

Second Place

*FAITH along Michigan’s 45th parallel, “All I did was take a walk in the woods” by Chris Grosser*

This unique pilgrimage story is told in the same humble attitude as the subject himself. The journey itself is one of hardship as told in comparison to that of Bishop Baraga, but it also seems to be a journey of continuing self education and self reflection for Curtis Chambers.

Third Place

*FAITH Magazine, Diocese of Lansing, “Walking the streets of one of America’s poorest cities: What is a deacon from Chelsea doing in Flint?” by Patrick O’Brien, Pat Dally, Jim Luning*
Hope is the primary message captured in this story and it's something that Flint and many of its peer cities need right now. The imagery and layout of the series conveys this hope with a brightness of color, which may contradict the plight obviously shown in the photos, but works hand in hand with the efforts of the various deacons.

Honorable Mentions

*ONE Magazine*, “No Place Like Home” by Emeline Wuilbercq, Petterik Wiggers

*Family Foundations*, “Big families, big love” by Kathleen M. Basi, author Carrie Weber, photography Ann Gundlach, editor Christina Ries, assistant editor

M50b: Best Single Photo

First Place

*Santa Clara Magazine*, “Faith & Fiesta” by Charles Barry, Photographer Steven Boyd Saum, Editor Linda Degastaldi, Creative Director Jane Hambleton, Designer DJ Stout and Kristen Keiser / Pentagram Austin, Design Consultants

Nicely timed moment and great color.

Second Place

*The Catholic University of America*, “91 of US” by Dana Rene Bowler

A well composed image with great color.

Third Place

*M, Manhattan Magazine*, “Building Bridges, Connecting Jaspers opening photo” by Josh Cuppek, photographer Kristen Cuppek, editor Kat Lepak, designer

Nice light and composition.

M50e: Best Interview

First Place

A great journey with Tim Gress and the secrets of the O'Malley Library.

Second Place

Santa Clara Magazine, “The Good, the Bad, and the Kid” by Steven Boyd Saum, Editor; Tim O'Brien, Illustrator; Matt Morgan, Associate Editor; Linda Degastaldi, Creative Director; Jane Hambleton, Designer; DJ Stout and Kristen Keiser / Pentagram Austin, Design Consultants

A solid interview with an outstanding author using the Q and A format.

M50f: Best Personality Profile

First Place

Santa Clara Magazine, “Courage Central” by Marty Sammon (as told to Steven Boyd Saum), Author; Steven Boyd Saum, Editor; Ron Hansen, Literary Editor; Matt Morgan, Associate Editor; Jane Hambleton, Designer; DJ Stout and Kristen Keiser / Pentagram Austin, Design Consultants

This one's a winner—great subject matter and well done.

Second Place

Caldwell University Magazine, “Bernie O’Rourke: An Irishman's Passion for Business”

Strong writing and plenty of background to expand the story.

M50g: Best Feature Article

First Place

Santa Clara Magazine, “Cut & Paste Conservation” by Emma Marris, Writer; Jason Holley, Illustrator; Steven Boyd Saum, Editor; Ron Hansen, Literary Editor; Matt Morgan, Associate Editor; Linda Degastaldi, Creative Director; Jane Hambleton, Designer; DJ Stout and Kristen Keiser / Pentagram Austin, Design Consultant

Wow—an interesting topic presented in a way that spurs intellectual curiosity; strong writing that poses important questions; and a great overall package. Excellent!

M50g: Best Feature Article
Second Place

*The Catholic University of America, “In the Business of Human Flourishing” by Ellen N. Woods*

Clear, compelling writing coupled with strong, detailed reporting. A shining example of what a feature article should be.

Third Place

*Santa Clara Magazine, “The Most Important Lawsuit on the Planet” by Deborah Lohse, Writer; Steven Boyd Saum, Editor; Ron Hansen, Literary Editor; Matt Morgan, Associate Editor; Cody Pickens, Photographer; Robin Loznak, Photographer; Jane Hambleton, Designer; DJ Stout and Kristen Keiser / Pentagram Austin, Design Consultants*

Interesting subject matter and strong writing make this one a winner.

Honorable Mentions

*M, Manhattan Magazine, “Building Bridges, Connecting Jaspers” by Kristen Cuppek, editor; Kat Lepak, designer; Kristen Cuppek, writer*

*The Catholic University of America, “Teaching Outside the Textbook” by Katie Bahr, Catherine Lee*

M50h: Alumni/ae Magazine of the Year

First Place

*Santa Clara Magazine, “Santa Clara Magazine” by Steven Boyd Saum, Editor; Ron Hansen, Literary Editor; Matt Morgan, Associate Editor; Monique Beeler, Assistant Editor; Linda Degastaldi, Creative Director; Jane Hambleton, Designer; DJ Stout & Kristen Keiser / Pentagram Austin, Design Consulting*

The bold and captivating design of this magazine is matched by equally strong writing and reporting. The illustrations and photography stand out and pull readers into the magazine. It takes a strong team all around to produce such good work. A clear standout in the field.

Second Place

*M, Manhattan Magazine, “M, Manhattan Magazine” by Kristen Cuppek, editor; Kat Lepak, designer; Christine Loughran, assistant editor*

An enjoyable magazine with a variety of article topics to appeal to most readers, with engaging lay out design as well. Great job highlighting on-campus news as well as alumni accomplishments. Writing is strong. The design is clean and provides a cohesive feel while still adapting to each type of story. Nice job.
Third Place


Nice job all around, especially on the more in-depth pieces. Strong writing matched with interesting photography and visuals.

Honorable Mention

St. Norbert College Magazine, “St. Norbert College Magazine” by Susan Allen, Editor; Laura Treichel, Art Director; Nina Rouse, Web Editor

M51: BEST ORIGINAL POETRY

First Place

America Media, “The Christmas Spectacular” by Joe Hoover, S.J.

Second Place

America Media, “The Rio Grande (South)” by John Poch

M51: BEST ORIGINAL POETRY

Third Place

Santa Clara Magazine, “Today is a New Day” by Juan Felipe Herrera, Writer; Steven Boyd Saum, Editor; Ron Hansen, Literary Editor; Matt Morgan, Associate Editor; Jane Hambleton, Designer; DJ Stout and Kristen Keiser / Pentagram Austin, Design Consultants

M52: BEST GUEST COLUMN/COMMENTARY

First Place

Columbia, “Fathers For Good” by Todd H. Ahern, Jason Godin and Peter Wolfgang
The “Fathers for Good” column addresses vital topics with great authors displaying how life should be examined. The examination of how faith and science work together, care for the family and the false compassion of assisted suicide come from experts in their fields and are crafted so that all readers can understand and move to action.

Second Place

HORIZON: Journal of the National Religious Vocation Conference, “Feed Your Spirit column” by Sister Juliet Mousseau, R.S.C.J., Jennifer Tomshack, Pope Francis

The “Feed Your Spirit” column brings out dynamic viewpoints to feed the reader. Even in toughest times, the saints are all around us—the value of religious life and keeping the fervor of ministry alive are addressed by the authors and bring the topics to life. The life in vocations work can often be long and tough, these columns supply spark.

Third Place

Catholic Extension, “Voices column (Spring, Summer and Winter 2017)” by Arturo Chávez; Sister Katarina Schuth, OSF; and Tim Muldoon

Honorable Mention

Catholic Connection, “The Harm of Pornography and Hope Beyond Addiction” by Katie Sciba

M55: BEST DESIGN WITH PHOTOGRAPHS

First Place

Extension magazine, “Extension’s chancellor becomes a cardinal” by Elio Leturja (design), Rich Kalonick (photography), Meinrad Scherer-Emunds (copy)

Superb collection of story telling images. A great variety of wide, medium and tight images that told the story of the event. Excellent design with text and layout of the images.

Second Place

St. Anthony Messenger, “Box of Joy Ministry” by Designed by Mary Catherine Kozusko

Great collection of images with some really strong genuine moments. The design could have been strengthened by a tighter edit, and using fewer images in order to make a few of the stronger images larger and more dominant.

Third Place

Jesuits Magazine, “With Others. For Others.”
Technically sound package with great attention to the detail in some of the images. A few more real moments would have strengthened the piece.

Honorable Mention

*Revista Misioneros, “Misioneros” by Kimberly Asencio*

**M55: BEST DESIGN WITH PHOTOGRAPHS**

Honorable Mention

*Living Unbound, “A Harsh Hill to Live On” by Henry Flores and Anne Peetz*

**M56: BEST PHOTOGRAPH—Portrait**

First Place

*North Texas Catholic Magazine, “From Gangsta to Gospel” by Ben Torres*

Nice lighting, composition and body posture made this image stand out.

Second Place

*Parable Magazine, “Finding Balance” by Jeff Dachowski*

Excellent use of artificial (studio) lighting and great attention to detail made this a strong portrait. Nice job by the photographer in working with the subject to create a natural feel to the image.

Third Place

*New Jersey Catholic magazine, “Student on A Mission” by Kelly Marsicano, editor*

The combination of great lighting and composition with the stairway elevate this image to stand out from the rest.

**M57: BEST PHOTOGRAPH—Photo Illustration**
First Place

Santa Clara Magazine, “Rambis + Nash” by Sean McCabe, Illustrator; Sam Farmer, Writer; Steven Boyd Saum, Editor; Ron Hansen, Literary Editor; Matt Morgan, Associate Editor; Jane Hambleton, Designer; DJ Stout and Kristen Keiser / Pentagram Austin, Design Consultants

In an overall weak category, the winner shows a fun design and creative approach in illustrating the story.

Second Place

Faith Erie Magazine, “Midnight Mass at St. Hermenegild” by Melinda Isachsen

A nice mix of media and use of text made this illustration stand out.
Newspaper Division

N01a: BEST FRONT PAGE: Broadsheet (17 x 22”)

First Place

The Catholic Messenger, “Best Front Page“ by Anne Marie Amacher, Barb Arland-Fye, Lindsay Steele

I really loved this entry. The pictures were very large and colorful, which made an impression on me as a reader/viewer. Additionally, the titles of the actual stories made me want to read on. I loved the focus on youth activism and social justice work. The organization of the pages was always clean and easy to follow.

Second Place

Pittsburgh Catholic, “Best Front Page“ by sTAFF

Overall, they covered a strong variety of topics, used many colors and fonts, and had a strong use of photos and other images. However, the layout was not as clear/easy to follow as it could be. Additionally, the headlines did not catch my interest as much as they could have.

Third Place

FaithLife, “FaithLife newspaper“ by Mary Solberg, Rich Papalia

Strong use of photos, fonts, and colors. Solid graphic design and fusion between text and images. Admittedly, I was not as drawn to the topics covered in the articles as in some other entries. However, it was still a really strong entry.

Honorable Mention


N01b: BEST FRONT PAGE: Tabloid (11 x 17”)

First Place

Orange County Catholic, “Issues of September 3, 10, 17, 2017” by Art Director: John Cheresh

This was a great submission! I love the very large, captivating picture of the boy on the first entry with his face painted. The large, bright white text stands out against this photo and caught my eyes and attention. On the second sample, I
liked the one large picture and the three smaller ones of the side, all of which have brief text accompanying them. I also really liked the clever “reaching new heights” title on the 3rd, and the picture of the site mid-construction, which many do not get a chance to see.

Second Place

*Catholic Standard, “Head of the Class”; “Mission of Mercy”; “True Blue” by Photographs by Jaclyn Lippelmann; Design by Javier Diaz and Jaclyn Lippelmann*

I love this! The pictures brought a smile to my face. It was one of the few that I had a genuine reaction to when I saw it. The colors are bright, the photos large (and interesting!), and the layout is simple. I prefer this type of cover (which has minimal text) to those that tries to incorporate the start of articles into the cover and clutter it with words. These covers are sharp and clean and let the pictures speak for themselves.

Third Place

*The Catholic Spirit, Diocese of Metuchen, NJ, “Best Front Page” by The Catholic Spirit staff*

Strong use of colors, fonts, and layout. It is very aesthetically pleasing and easy to navigate. I liked the colored text boxes and the large, bright photos.

Honorable Mention (1)

*Catholic Health World, “Catholic Health World” by Judy VandeWater Les Stock*

*National Catholic Reporter, “National Catholic Reporter” by Toni-Ann Ortiz*

**N02a: BEST NEWS WRITING ON A LOCAL OR REGIONAL EVENT: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less**

First Place

*The Catholic Sun, “Lifesaving’ Upstate Cord Blood Bank opens: Auburn family makes first donation at lab in Syracuse” by Tom Maguire*

Timely coverage of a compelling topic. Is a classic case of a story that informs but also might spur others to act.

Second Place

*Rhode Island Catholic, “Pastoral Planning Providing Guidance as Parishes Chart Future in Uncertain Times” by Rick Snizek*

This was a thorough report on the difficult decisions that are considered and made about parish futures. Story pulled no punches and was well reported.
Third Place

*The Catholic Sun*, “Free dental clinic expands in Syracuse; Dental service shows off new suite to potential volunteers” by Tom Maguire

Loved the topic. Well-written and this story gives a nudge to others who might be considering donating their money or services to this important part of health care.

Honorable Mentions

*The Boston Pilot*, “Residents, clergy, and police walk for peace in Dorchester” by Mark Labbe

*The Observer*, “Governor Rauner Reneges on Promise to Veto Abortion Funding” by Penny Wiegert

N02b: BEST NEWS WRITING ON A LOCAL OR REGIONAL EVENT: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place

*CatholicPhilly.com*, “Parish Mass attendance drops again, but cultural diversity surging” by Matthew Gambino and Lou Baldwin

Interesting hard-hitting look at attendance and trends supported by data. Clear writing. Challenging topic addressed head-on.

Second Place

*The Leaven*, “Hope Amid the Ashes” by Joe Bollig

This is a compelling package about recovery from devastating fires.

Third Place

*Arlington Catholic Herald*, “The opioid epidemic” by Zoey Maraist

A solid local look at this very serious problem and how the church can be part of the reaction to it. Lot of work went into this story, it seems.

Honorable Mention

*Clarion Herald*, “An artistic transformation” by Beth Donze
N02c: BEST NEWS WRITING ON A LOCAL OR REGIONAL EVENT: Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less

First Place

*Catholic Sentinel,* “Laying down your life” by Ed Langlois

Great coverage of how the community and the Church responded to this terrible tragedy. Well written and thoughtfully presented.

Second Place

*Catholic Sentinel,* “Human shield protects assaulted parishioners” by Rocío Rios, Ed Langlois


Third Place

*The Michigan Catholic,* “Beatification of Blessed Solanus Casey” by Mike Stechschulte and Dan Meloy This story was by far the biggest covered by The Michigan Catholic in 2017, and was a focus of many, many stories, culminating in a 44-page special supplement on Nov. 18

Solid ongoing coverage. Clearly a lot of work went into this package. Good writing and editing.

Honorable Mentions

*Catholic Standard,* “With public apology at liturgy and by renaming buildings, Georgetown confronts its slavery past” by Story by Mark Zimmermann Photos by Jaclyn Lippelmann

*Tennessee Register,* “More Latino families finding a home in Catholic schools” by Andy Telli

N02d: BEST NEWS WRITING ON A LOCAL OR REGIONAL EVENT: Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place

*Texas Catholic Herald,* “Terror, Heartbreak and the Beatitudes: The Story of Harvey’s Reckoning” by Jonah Dycus, Rebecca Torrellas, Catherine Viola, Sean O’Driscoll, James Ramos

This was a thorough package that touched all aspects of this massive story and its wide impact. Comprehensive coverage of the impact on the community, and the responses to the devastation. Applause for the resources devoted to this important effort.

Second Place
Florida Catholic Miami, “Hurricane Irma” by Ana Rodriguez-Soto, Tom Tracy, Cristina Cabrera, Jim Davis, Marlene Quaroni, Archbishop Thomas Wenski

Great coverage. Bravo on pivoting under difficult circumstances. And the chainsaw-wielding nun story was a gem. Congrats on great work. Very competitive category.

Third Place

The Catholic Spirit, St. Paul, MN, “Belle Plaine Catholics say ‘no thanks’ to Satanic monument“ by Matthew Davis

Thoughtful coverage of this unusual and troubling debate. Both sides were presented so the reader could understand how this difficult situation came about. A good effort in a very competitive category.

Honorable Mention

Western New York Catholic, “Bicyclists do a ‘Holy Roll’ through 7 churches on Holy Thursday” by By Patrick J. Buechi

Nice coverage of an unusual cycling effort. Refreshing.

Honorable Mention

The Florida Catholic, Orlando, “President Trump visits Orlando Catholic School” by Jean Gonzalez

N03a: BEST NEWS WRITING ON A NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL EVENT: National Event, Diocesan Newspaper

First Place

The Leaven, “Human Trafficking” by By Marc and Julie Anderson

Human trafficking is a timely and urgent crisis. This coverage represents the best of what Catholic journalism can provide. The author provided poignant stories, well-researched facts, and lists of resources to create a complete package for the reader.

Second Place

Clarion Herald, “Painful truths, hopeful future” by Peter Finney Jr.

Truth-telling can be painful but is necessary. The author used touching stories, captivating quotes, and clearly described detail to tell this important story about the history of slavery and Georgetown University.

Third Place
The Catholic Spirit, St. Paul, MN, “Father Stanley Rother” by Maria Wiering

This making-of-a-saint story provides a fascinating view of a priest with remarkable spiritual courage. The story is well told with descriptive detail creating good human interest.

Honorable Mentions

Clarion Herald, “African-born clergy and religious in U.S. growing” by Beth Donze

St. Louis Review, “Between Heaven and Earth; Total(ity) amazement” by Staff

N03b: BEST NEWS WRITING ON A NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL EVENT: National Event, National Newspaper or Wire Service

First Place

National Catholic Reporter, “Meeting rallies to ‘stand with those whose backs are against the wall’; San Diego bishop urges crowd to become disrupters and rebuilders” by Brian Roewe

With an impressive list of sources, these well-written and crafted articles tell a powerful story.

Second Place

National Catholic Reporter, “Words are not enough: Racial justice activists urge action from Catholic leaders” by Heidi Schlumpf

Weaving past and recent news events with contemporary responses but Church leadership, this well-researched and crafted article lays out Church and world responses to the sin of racism.

Third Place

National Catholic Register, “Racism on Main Street” by Peter Jesserer Smith

Chronicling the horror of racism and its immediate effects, this coverage is informative and descriptive. The appeal to stomping out racism is strengthened with the references and quotes of diverse U.S. bishops.

Honorable Mentions

Our Sunday Visitor, “The Church and the #metoo movement” by By Michelle Martin

N03c: BEST NEWS WRITING ON A NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL EVENT: International Event, Diocesan Newspaper

First Place


With a descriptive narrative the author updates the story of the three children of Fatima and the beatification of two of them. The words paint a picture of the story.

Second Place

The Observer, “Pope Francis Visits Colombia” by Margarita Mendoza

Good first-hand account of Pope Francis

Third Place

Arlington Catholic Herald, “Liberty, equality and fraternity” by Ann M. Augherton

Honorable Mentions

The Evangelist, “Local faithful rejoice at beatification of Rev. Stanley Rother” by Kate Blain

The Boston Pilot, “Vatican ‘too optimistic’ in talks with China, says visiting Hong Kong cardinal”

N03d: BEST NEWS WRITING ON A NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL EVENT: International Event, National Newspaper or Wire Service

First Place


Bold in approach, the coverage of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors is told with precision. The addition of the first person story of the resignation of Marie Collins and Pope Francis’ response rounds out this story which must see the light of day.
Second Place


Changes in liturgical language always rouse interest and ire. These articles spell out with clarity the background and implications of the current guides coming from Rome to the local church by way of the USCCB.

Third Place

The Catholic Register, “Trump and the refugees” by Michael Swan

The current plight of refugees in the U.S. deserves attention and response by the Church and this series of articles does just that with good background and breadth of coverage.

Honorable Mention

National Catholic Register, “Coverage of Persecuted Christians in the Middle East in the wake of ISIS” by Edward Pentin and Peter Jesserer Smith

N04a: BEST INVESTIGATIVE/ANALYSIS NEWS WRITING: Investigative News Writing, Diocesan Newspaper

First Place

CatholicPhilly.com, “The Opioid Epidemic: A Catholic Perspective” by Gina Christian

The reporter did a comprehensive and fully exhaustive examination of the opioid crises and the wide-ranging effects it is having in Philadelphia. The series revealed the extent of the crisis through anecdotal and statistical evidence. The reporting also focused on the Catholic response to the crisis, even diving into whether addiction is a sin. And finally, the reporting also offered potential solutions to the problem, or at least options being provided through the dedicated efforts of many individuals and organizations. Top-notch and in-depth reporting.

Second Place

Catholic Sentinel, “Playing catch-up: Catholic schools reach out to Oregon’s Hispanic community” by Katie Scott
Very well researched and tightly written story about efforts to expand the reach of Oregon’s Catholic schools into the Hispanic community. Interesting personal anecdotes supported by a variety of timely facts and figures shows the reporters ability to deftly report and write a story exhibiting the challenges on both sides of the issue.

Third Place

*Clarion Herald*, “A ministry of presence” by Peter Finney Jr.

Highly descriptive reporting about a timely and emotional issue and what is being done to address it. Writing style is smooth and clear, painting a picture for readers absent the lurid details that often bog down these types of stories.

**N04b: BEST INVESTIGATIVE/ANALYSIS NEWS WRITING:** Investigative News Writing, National Newspaper or Wire Service

First Place

*National Catholic Reporter*, “Coverage of money and the Catholic church” by Tom Roberts. Articles submitted: “The Knights’ reach,” “Find common cause,’ spokesman advises NCR,” “Koch, Turkson speak at Catholic University’s ‘Good Profit’ conference,” “Money and church intertwined”

The research and investigation for this story appears to be exhaustive. Reporter dug through a vast amount of federal tax forms in conducting research for the story and followed that up with detailed interviews in support of the research. Impressively weaved all of the research into a series of stories that explains in interesting detail how great sums of money are being disbursed by powerful people and organizations with ties to Catholicism.

Second Place

*The Catholic Register*, “Saving our kids” by Michael Swan

Stories did an excellent job of portraying challenges in Ontario’s child care system as well as explaining the proposed reform of existing child care laws. Good use of experts mixed with interviews of those who have gone through the system, which paints a much needed picture for readers.

Third Place

*The Irish Catholic*, “Pro-repeal group return billionaire’s cash after ethics watchdog probe; Funding a softening-up campaign; TD warns over well-funded lobbies targeting pro-life law; Amnesty vows it will not comply with funding law; Light shed on dark world of overseas fundi” by Greg Daly

Detailed reporting that makes a concerted effort to explain complex legal and political issues. Direct reporting mixed with in-depth analysis well serves the reader.
N04c: BEST INVESTIGATIVE/ANALYSIS NEWS WRITING: Best Analysis/Background/Round-Up News Writing: The Gerard E. Sherry Award for Diocesan Newspaper

First Place

*Catholic Sentinel, “Faith and science series” by Ed Langlois, Sarah Wolf, Kristen Hannum, Katie Scott, Paul Senz, Br. Louis de Montfort Nguyen*

This wide-ranging series uses research and interviews to explore provocative questions bridging faith and science, such as whether there could be intelligent life on other planets, the ethical implications of artificial intelligence, and the responsibility to address climate change.

Second Place

*Catholic Sentinel, “Untold history: Blacks in Oregon Catholic schools” by Katie Scott*

These stories sensitively explore how Oregon schools, which are mostly white, can better meet the needs of African-American students. Interviews with students, parents and staff show how schools are starting difficult conversations, and a piece on the history of racism in Oregon provides valuable context.

Third Place

*The Leaven, “Human Trafficking” by Marc and Julie Anderson*

This analysis of human trafficking in Topeka challenges readers to recognize that trafficking is happening in their community, tells powerful stories of those who have been affected and those who seek to free them, and provides resources for those who want to learn more and help.

N04d: BEST INVESTIGATIVE/ANALYSIS NEWS WRITING: Best Analysis/Background/Round-Up News Writing: The Gerard E. Sherry Award for National Newspaper or Wire Service

First Place

*National Catholic Reporter, “Sexual violence victims break the silence” by Heidi Schlumpf*

This analysis of the Church’s silence on the #metoo movement allows victims of sexual violence to speak for themselves, provides statistics on how many people are affected, and interviews theologians who explain how the Church can do better.

Second Place

*National Catholic Register, “Coverage of the Reformation at 500” by Register staff and Stephen Beale, Steve Weidenkopf, Mark Brumley, Matthew Bunson, Susan Klemond*
A fascinating and exhaustively reported exploration of the Reformation at 500, this series challenges common misperceptions, brings historical figures to life through vivid writing, and uses timelines and short profiles to show how centuries-old events still have resonance in today.

Third Place

National Catholic Reporter, “Annulment reform seems to cultivate change of culture; What are the changes to the annulment process?” by Dan Morris-Young

As applications for annulment rise dramatically in some dioceses, this story explains how the process works, describes recent changes in canon law, and gathers perspectives from interviews with diocesan leaders across the country.

N05a: BEST IN-DEPTH NEWS/SPECIAL REPORTING: Diocesan Newspaper

First Place

The Catholic Spirit, St. Paul, MN, “‘Switching sexes? Transgender ideology and the Church’ by Jonathan Liedl

A very balanced and thoughtful exploration of this timely topic that few readers know about. Lots of voices and a clear explanation of the church’s perspective provides. Stood out for good writing as well in an extremely competitive category,

Second Place

The Leaven, “Human Trafficking” by Marc and Julie Anderson

Well written and reported. Great perspective on a difficult topic. Sensitive tone.

Third Place

The Tablet, “Where Have All the Convents Gone?” by Antonina Zielinska

Very good coverage of an unusual topic. Enjoyed the intersection of the current state of the church and changing real estate business. Readers learned a lot. Clearly a considerable amount of effort was put into these stories.

Honorable Mentions

Florida Catholic Miami, “Farewell to Curley-Notre Dame” by Ana Rodriguez-Soto

Catholic Outlook, “End-of-life issues” by Jessica Caraballo, Omar Rodriguez, Steff Koeneman, Msgr. Jeremiah McCarthy, Michael Brown
N05b: BEST IN-DEPTH NEWS/SPECIAL REPORTING: National Newspaper or Wire Service

First Place

National Catholic Register, “Sale of Priceless ‘Salvador Mundi’ Puts Catholic Treasure in Anti-Christian Land” by Victor Gaetan

Exceptional article. Tackles curious, absurd, complex global world in which money trumps meaning and raises specter of potential ramifications of when that valued by some is seized by others who do not share those values. Editorializing—via use of the word tragically and worrisome, as example—is inappropriate and unnecessary. The article is solid news and, as such, should allow for readers to draw their own conclusions from an article that questions the welfare of things/people in the grips of the uncompromising.

Second Place


Interesting read. In-depth with breadth. Excellent intertwining of personal stories with support resources created to address human trafficking.

Third Place

Catholic News Service, “Catholic ministry in the global shipping industry” by Ezra Fieser, Mark Pattison, R.W.Dellinger

Well done. Excellent interplay that brings into perspective global issues just off U.S. shores.

Honorable Mentions

National Catholic Register, “Indian Nun’s Killer Participates in Her Beatification Mass” by Anto Akkara


N06b: BEST EDITORIAL ON A LOCAL ISSUE: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place

The Criterion, “Standing strong against the evil of racism in our time” by Mike Krokos

This editorial is well-researched and compellingly argued.
Second Place

*St. Louis Review,* “It’s time to get uncomfortable” by staff

Persuasive logic and appeal to Christian moral attitudes and behavior characterize this strong editorial.

Third Place

*St. Louis Review,* “City’s pro-abortion law only strengthens our resolve” by Staff

In keeping with Catholic teaching this editorial makes a strong case with words and descriptions for positive pro-life responses and actions in light of local legislation.

Honorable Mentions

*The Record newspaper,* “Take action on opioid crisis” by Marnie McAllister

*St. Louis Review,* “They’re watching us” by staff

**N06c: BEST EDITORIAL ON A LOCAL ISSUE: Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less**

First Place

*Tennessee Register,* “Media fails if it does not serve the common good” by Andy Telli

This editorial presents a compelling logical plea for journalists and readers alike grounded in Catholic teaching in the Catechism.

**N06d: BEST EDITORIAL ON A LOCAL ISSUE: Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more**

First Place

*The A.D. Times,* “Praying for a ‘Full House’” by Father Eugene Ritz

Creatively using a metaphor, the author compares the elements of a 5-card stud poker hand with the story of the Incarnation.
**N07a: BEST EDITORIAL ON A NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL ISSUE: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less**

**First Place**

*The Compass, “Las Vegas: Our spilled blood” by Patricia Kasten*

Well-written and argued, this editorial presents a compelling persuasive plea for change in attitudes and actions in response to violence.

**Second Place**

*The Compass, “Health care needs fixing, not the scrap yard” by Patricia Kasten*

Well-researched and stated, this argument is grounded in tenets of Catholic Social Teaching and Catholic principles on human dignity.

**Third Place**

*Catholic Herald-Diocease of Madison, “Continue to welcome immigrants” by Mary C. Uhler*

This editorial provides a clear reminder that welcoming the stranger is a tenet of Catholic teaching. The author offers distinct action responses for the readers.

**Honorable Mentions**

*The Beacon, “Disasters don’t discriminate; why does FEMA?” by Richard A. Sokerka*

*The Beacon, “Anti-Catholic bigotry” by Richard A. Sokerka*

**N07b: BEST EDITORIAL ON A NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL ISSUE: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more**

**First Place**

*The Record newspaper, “Curb Everyday Racism” by Marnie McAllister*

The author presents a clear moral argument likely to raise shackles in some. The courage to speak this truth should be applauded by those in the church.
First Place

*Intermountain Catholic-Diocese of Salt Lake City,* “Here’s Hoping This Story Will Make a Difference” by Marie Mischel

This captivating editorial with a creative approach puts a face on the DACA dilemma facing this country. The strong narrative eloquently told makes this one a winner.

Second Place

*Tennessee Register,* “Poverty is too complex to simply blame it on the poor” by Andy Telli

Based on a study of Catholic/Christian response to causes of poverty, this editorial confronts negative attitudes head on. The appeal to the tenets of Catholic social teaching is matched with the clear record of Catholic Charity’s work with the poor accompanied by a challenge.

Third Place

*Catholic Sentinel,* “Rejoin the accord” by Ed Langlois

As the editorial clearly states, failure to abide by the Parish Accord puts everyone in peril. Clearly stated, this persuasive argument challenges those in power to new action.

Honorable Mentions

*Tennessee Register,* “DACA cancellation undermines Gospel mandate to welcome the stranger” by Andy Telli

*Tennessee Register,* “Don’t lose sight of moral dimension in renewed fight over health care” by Andy Telli

First Place

*Catholic New York,* “Missed Opportunity for Student Protesters” by Mary Ann Poust

Well-argued, this editorial uses clear logic and the strong words of wisdom from Notre Dame President Fr. John Jenkins to plead its case.
N07e: BEST EDITORIAL ON A NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL ISSUE: National Newspaper

First Place

*National Catholic Reporter, “Now is the time for action on guns” by National Catholic Reporter editors*

Bravo for pointed and vivid language that takes on the issue of guns and politics. The bishop’s story that leads the editorial has a power and immediacy that suggests NOW, as the rest of the editorial does too.

Second Place

*National Catholic Reporter, “Default must be to trust the victim” by National Catholic Reporter editors*

This appeal to transform culture because of misuse of power and authority around sexual relationships is presented with logic and a bit of emotional content as well. The editorial appeals to the mind as well as the heart.

Third Place

*The Catholic Register, “Nuclear ban elusive” by Jim O’Leary*

Argued with clarity and logic, this appeal reminds readers of Catholic teaching surrounding nuclear weapons as nuclear powers hold the future of the globe in the balance.

Honorable Mentions

*National Catholic Reporter, “Time for dialogue on sexual ethics” by National Catholic Reporter editors*

*Our Sunday Visitor, “A Revolution of Love” by OSV Editorial Board*

N08a: BEST EDITORIAL PAGE OR EDITORIAL SECTION: Diocesan Newspaper

First Place

*Catholic Sentinel, “Catholic Sentinel” by Ed Langlois, Kristen Hannum, Katie Scott, Sarah Wolf*

A strong mix of thought-provoking opinions and political cartoons sets the bar high for excellence in viewpoints.

Second Place

*The Tablet, “Best Editorial Pages” by Ed Wilkinson and Father John P. Cush*
Timely, topical and relevant commentary.

Third Place

*The Catholic News Herald*, “Viewpoints” by Patricia L. Guilfoyle

**N08b: BEST EDITORIAL PAGE OR EDITORIAL SECTION: National Newspaper**

First Place

*National Catholic Reporter*, “Opinion & Arts” by National Catholic Reporter staff and contributors

Opinion and the Arts is characterized by creativity as well as breadth and depth of coverage. Content is representative of the wide range of the Catholic Intellectual tradition including art, literature, and critical thinking about current issues. Bravo!

**N09a: BEST FEATURE WRITING: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less**

First Place

*Rhode Island Catholic*, “Regalia Changes Lead to Many Restless Knights” by Daniel J. Holmes

A well-detailed review of the history coupled with multiple perspectives to give the reader the knowledge and context of how to understand the changes in the Knights really made this article stand out.

Second Place

*The Catholic Sun*, “Family’s first Christmas in U.S. makes a ‘heart open to Jesus and this new life’” by Renée K. Gadoua

This article stood out for its ability to humanize an issue through the story telling of one family while weaving in details about the overarching social issue.

Third Place

*The Compass*, “Capuchin wants to end up as naturally as he can” by Patricia Kasten

An incredible unique story, beautifully told in such a way as to entertain and inform.

Honorable Mention

*Arkansas Catholic*, “Candy-cane priest has a sweet secret” by Malea Hargett
N09b: BEST FEATURE WRITING: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place

*St. Louis Review*, “Faith and science go hand in hand” by Dave Luecking

The author’s approach allows both sides to understand a highly confused issue with clarity and insight. A very engaging and interesting read.

Second Place

*St. Louis Review*, “In the footsteps of a saint” by Jennifer Brinker

A warm story told in a lively manner, that allows the story to come to life, is what made this article stand out.

Third Place

*The Tablet*, “Cuba’s First Christmas Without Fidel” by Jorge I. Dominguez-Lopez

Wonderful insight to a world that has not always been so accessible. The writer’s clarity and focus made for a compelling read.

Honorable Mentions

*The Tablet*, “Priest Pursues Prophets on Periphery of Diocese” by Ed Wilkinson

*Orange County Catholic*, “Guide, Protector and Friend” by Larry Urish

N09c: BEST FEATURE WRITING: Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less

First Place

*The Michigan Catholic*, “The Miraculous Healing at Fr. Solanus’ Tomb” by Dan Meloy

A truly amazing story brought to life through excellent story-telling with clear imagery, pace and insight.

Second Place
Catholic Standard, “#CivDei: Catholic University professor teaches Twitter course on St. Augustine’s ‘City of God’” story by Kelly Seegers, Photo by Jaclyn Lippelmann

A unique topic coupled with excellent use of interview to build a clear picture of a new way of teaching, academically and spiritually, that engaged the reader.

Third Place

Catholic Standard, “For African Americans, new history museum tells ‘our story’” Story by Mark Zimmermann, Photos by Jaclyn Lippelmann

Excellent writer’s voice and tone presenting a story in a very inclusive manner, highlighting facts that allow all readers to engage, is why this story stood out.

Honorable Mentions

Catholic Sentinel, “Faith reclaimed: How survivors of clergy abuse return to the church” by Katie Scott

Tennessee Register, “Church teaching intertwines charity and justice” by Theresa Laurence

N09d: BEST FEATURE WRITING: Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place

The Southern Cross Newspaper–San Diego, “Film Students Travel to ‘Endor’ to Shoot ‘Star Wars’ Fan Film” by Denis Grasska

A fun story told through a lighthearted but professional tone made this article stand out.

Second Place

Catholic San Francisco, “Destination parishes offer a sense of home to seeking Catholics” by Valerie Schmalz, Karessa McCartney

The clarity and organization of the writer made this article stand out. An interesting idea described in an articulate way.

Third Place

Catholic Courier, “Vietnam: Surviving stormy times” by Mike Latona

A compelling story with a personal touch, allowing readers to connect because of the engaging lay out of information.
Honorable Mentions

The Georgia Bulletin, “Congolese priest completes study as neuropsychologist for homeland” by A. Nelson

The Catholic Miscellany, “Finding Christianity at root of Easter Traditions” by Amy Wise Taylor

N09e: BEST FEATURE WRITING: National Newspaper or Wire Service

First Place

Catholic Health World, “Kids learn to persevere against life’s hard knocks” by Renee Stovsky

A truly inspiring story that is enhanced through the quality of the writing and integration of story telling techniques.

Second Place

Catholic News Agency, “Gluten and Communion: What’s a celiac to do?” by Mary Rezac

A unique topic covered in an unbiased, even approach that gives all readers a chance to connect with an issue perhaps not often considered.

Third Place

Catholic Health Association, “SSM Health aids opioid-addicted pregnant women” by Betsy Taylor

The author’s insightful and analytical approach to a very current and serious issue made this article stand out.

Honorable Mentions

Catholic Health World, “Where social determinants put babies at risk, Generate Health gives moms better options” by Renee Stovsky

Catholic Health World, “ArchCare offers residential care for people with Huntington’s” by Julie Minda

N10a: BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less

First Place

The Compass, “Who is that young man? He’s Bishop Ricken’s master of ceremonies” by Patricia Kasten
The subject’s dedication to his role is evident through the quotations and descriptions.

**Second Place**

*The Catholic Sun, “A tale of two evangelists: Brady Faith Center exec and buddy recall epiphany at Cornell” by Tom Maguire*

The vibrant, bold personality of the subject leaps off the page thanks to the writer’s use of details, descriptions and quotes.

**Third Place**

*The Compass, “Faith and cooking are Hanten’s recipes for success” by Amanda Lauer*

The subject’s commitment to her faith jumps off the page. Nicely written.

**N10b: BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more**

**First Place**

*The Leaven, “100 Candles” by Jill Ragar Esfeld*

Incredibly rich in details and a true sense of the subject’s personality.

**Second Place**

*Clarion Herald, “Faith carried Regina Matrum through family tragedy” by Beth Donze*

Excellent use of details and quotations to weave the story.

**Third Place**

*Clarion Herald, “Catholic Foundation honors Rodi, pro-life advocate” by Beth Donze*

The subject’s personality is evident throughout the article through quotes and the many details of her life. Nicely done.

**N10c: BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or less**

**First Place**
The Florida Catholic Palm Beach, “Prisoner works to ‘be the example’” by Jean Gonzalez

Second Place
Catholic Sentinel, “A grandson of slaves ascends to leadership” by Ed Langlois

N10d: BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE: Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place
Catholic San Francisco, “Melissa Ohden survived her mother’s abortion—and that’s just the beginning of the story” by Valerie Schmalz

This story will haunt its readers for a long time and open eyes to the miracles of new human life.

N10e: BEST PERSONALITY PROFILE: National Newspaper or Wire Service

First Place
National Catholic Reporter, “Colman McCarthy makes sure students learn peace” by Tom Roberts

This story brings an interesting character to life and clearly demonstrates the impact he has on other people.

Third Place
National Catholic Reporter, “Helen Prejean sways hearts with stories” by Kristen Whitney Daniels

This story profiles a complex and determined personality that is touching the lives of many.

N11a: BEST REGULAR COLUMN: Culture, the Arts, and Leisure

First Place
National Catholic Reporter, “Cosmopolitan 17th-century art; Artworks that teach the faithful how to die well; Michelangelo’s architecture of faith” by Menachem Wecker

Nice, diverse collection of well organized articles.

Second Place
Conversational. I like how he addresses regular music fans and pop culture.

Third Place

National Catholic Register, “Apostasy and Ambiguity; What Does a Starship Need with God; All Saints Offers Story of Encounter, Welcome of Refugees” by Steven D. Greydanus

These are good.

Honorable Mentions

National Catholic Reporter, “Hulu’s ‘The Handmaid’s Tale’; Nun’s death unsolved; ‘Sister Jaguar’s Journey’” by Rose Pacatte

Catholic Star Herald, “Carl Peters Commentary” by Carl Peters

**N11b: BEST REGULAR COLUMN: Spiritual Life**

First Place

National Catholic Reporter, “Soul Seeing” by Michael Leach, Heidi Russell, Tom Smith Columns submitted: “Love revealed in brokenness” “I can’t get the institutional church out of my system” “I know there will always be kindness”

A diverse collection of well-written columns with a lot of variety. Address profound topics in an engaging manner.

Second Place

The Compass, “Foundations of Faith” by Patricia Kasten

I liked the historical perspectives of these columns and thought they were well-researched and clearly written. Added value because she shows her sources for her research.

Third Place

Catholic Star Herald, “Science and Catholicism” by Michael M. Canaris

These were great topics explored thoughtfully. I think the collection was informative and useful for most readers.

Honorable Mention
Catholic News Service, “For the Journey” by Effie Caldarola

The Observer, “Ethically Speaking” by By Father Kenneth Wasilewski, Diocesan Ethicist

N11c: BEST REGULAR COLUMN: Scripture

First Place

The Florida Catholic, Orlando, “Sunday Word Column: “Elijah Moments,” “How long is the wait,” “Voices in the wilderness”” by Father Ben Berinti

This work showcases the author’s voice—a voice with clarity, encouragement, and a sense of humor. Excellent work all around.

Second Place

The Evangelist, “Good News for Kids column” by Kate Blain

Excellent job—well-written columns for children that convey important messages while capturing children’s interest.

Third Place

The Tablet, “Sunday’s Scriptures” by Father Jean-Pierre Ruiz

Well-written columns that do a good job relating scripture to everyday life. Nicely done.

Honorable Mention

Our Sunday Visitor, “Tomorrow, the dawn; The sin of grasping; Accepting the invite” by By Timothy O’Malley

N11d: BEST REGULAR COLUMN: General Commentary

First Place

National Catholic Register, “Immoral Uses of Biotechnology—Even With Good Intentions—Are Nevertheless Evil; When Redefining ‘Normal’ Is More Hurtful Than Helpful; It’s Up to Us to Protect the Tree of Life” by Rebecca Taylor

Powerful persuasion backed by strong coverage makes this one stand out as a winner.

Second Place

Pittsburgh Catholic, “Robert P. Lockwood Columns” by Robert P. Lockwood
Great messages, and a strong voice that reflects humor, compassion, and caring. These columns are very well done!

Third Place

*The Observer, “From the Editor” by Penny Wiegert*

Nice job! These columns were relatable and had a concise point that connects with readers.

Honorable Mentions


*Our Sunday Visitor, “Childbirth class, nature and the musings of a mom-to-be; When it comes to the question of dining out, know thyself; The emperor’s new gender—or lack thereof” by By Gretchen R. Crowe*

**N11e: BEST REGULAR COLUMN: Family Life**

First Place

*Catholic News Service, “Faith at Home” by Laura Kelly Fanucci*

Simply wonderful. Moving pieces that fill the reader with the love of God. Well done.

Second Place

*Catholic Herald-Diocese of Madison, “Everyday Faith” by Julianne Nornberg*

Nice job incorporating a spiritual message into columns about everyday life. Well done.

Third Place

*Cross Roads, “Family Life” by Mike Allen*

Great topics, strong writing. Well done.

Honorable Mentions

*Aleteia.org, “Tom Hoopes—Voices and Views” by Tom Hoopes*

*Tennessee Register, “FAITHFUL MARRIAGES: A simple blessing can carry a father’s faith to the next generation; The power of faith and kindness in marriage; A shared spirituality is the foundation of a happy marriage” by John Bosio*
N12a: BEST REPORTING ON SPECIAL AGE GROUP: Children and Teens Younger than 18

First Place

The Observer, “Wellness Resource Program Lifeline for Boylan Students” by Lynne Conner

Excellent coverage and inclusion of quotes to bring feeling and understanding to the piece.

Second Place

The Catholic Spirit, St. Paul, MN, “East to West: A day in the life of Catholic schools” by Dave Hrbacek

Great day-in-the-life piece.

Third Place

Catholic Standard, “Boy receives hero’s send-off after his battle with cancer” by Kelly Seegers

This article abounds with details that reveal the subject’s personality and how he touched many people’s lives.

N12b: BEST REPORTING ON SPECIAL AGE GROUP: Young Adults (Age 18-40)

First Place

St. Louis Review, “The Power of One” by Jennifer Brinker

Well-written, excellent photographs and great use of information.

Second Place

Arkansas Catholic, “Keeping the Faith” by Aprille Hanson

Choice of subjects, use of quotations and use of statistics make a well-rounded article.

Third Place

Denver Catholic, “How do I date?” by Therese Bussen

Interesting and well-written.

Honorable Mentions

Our Sunday Visitor, “Spiritually thirsty millennials turn to the occult” by By Nicholas Wolfram Smith
For Rhode Island ‘Dreamers,’ DACA Decision Means Uncertainty, Fear” by Lauren Clem

N12c: BEST REPORTING ON SPECIAL AGE GROUP: Senior Citizens

First Place

The Catholic Spirit, St. Paul, MN, “Shot down: WWII vet recalls ordeal inside German prison camp” by Dave Hrbacek

Rich in details that bring the subject and his experiences to life.

Second Place

St. Louis Review, “Senior living: Dignity of the elderly” by Jennifer Brinker, Joe Kenny, Dave Luecking

Excellent, well-written variety of articles on seniors, senior services and their contributions.

Third Place

Catholic Sentinel, “Grandfamilies on the rise” by Katie Scott

Good use of statistics and personal stories.

Honorable Mention

The Leaven, “Welcome Central” by Jill Ragar Esfeld

N13a: BEST PHOTO STORY: News Photo Story

First Place

Catholic Standard, “Holy Land Festival seeks to unite Muslims, Christians in peace” by Jaclyn Lippelmann

The event itself is unique and worthy of attention but the photographer highlights that further by capturing both faiths in symmetry to one another. Placing the different goods being sold side-by-side as well as both faiths learning from the other through dance and languages truly highlights the communities coming together in peace as the headline conveys.

Second Place

The Compass, “A Priest Forever” by Sam Lucero
It’s hard to avoid the sea of white robes that make new priesthood images all look the same. This grouping makes great use of diverse lighting, angles and steps of the ordination to not only capture all five new priests, but to capture them at different stages of the process as well.

**Third Place**

*The Catholic Voice, “Easter Triduum” by staff*

Readers can easily follow the journey of the parishioners through the stages of Easter celebration. The images also show a great diversity in both viewpoints and subjects.

**Honorable Mentions**

*Catholic New York, “Finest Society” by Mary DiBiase Blaich/Freelance for Catholic New York*

*Arlington Catholic Herald, “Pilgrimage to shrine” by Elizabeth A. Elliott, Joe Cashwell*

**N13b: BEST PHOTO STORY: Feature Photo Story**

**First Place**

*The Catholic Spirit, St. Paul, MN, “Into the north woods: Catholic Youth Camp” by Dave Hrbacek*

Readers are able to feel as if they were at summer camp alongside these kids as they follow along. The photographer captures a wide variety of interactions including kids activities and counselor roles along with great profiles to show a diverse group of subjects.

**Second Place**

*Catholic Standard, “Nourished by the Body of Christ” by Jaclyn Lippelmann*

The images and presentation of the images show great symmetry of presenting and sharing the host as well as highlighting the children in their journey.

**Third Place**

*Arlington Catholic Herald, “Easter Vigil” by Joe Cashwell*

The entire package comes together from start of the ceremony with the shadows of the fire to finishing with the bright cleansing light of the baptisms.

**N13c: BEST PHOTO STORY: Sports Photo Story**
First Place

*Arlington Catholic Herald*, “Wrestling tournament” by Joe Cashwell

Images are high quality and action packed, drawing the reader through the wrestling match with pace and anticipation.

Second Place

*Arlington Catholic Herald*, “Rugby tournament” by Joe Cashwell

The images all portray the Christendom Crusaders as the dominant team showing them outpacing and outperforming at a level above their opponents, matching the description of the match.

Honorable Mentions

*Arlington Catholic Herald*, “Softball championship” by Joe Cashwell

*Arlington Catholic Herald*, “Swim meet” by Joe Cashwell

**N14a: BEST PHOTOGRAPH: Best Feature Photo**

First Place

*St. Louis Review*, “Easter at the Cathedral Basilica” by Lisa Johnston

In a category with many strong images, this one quickly rose to the top. The combination of it being beautifully exposed and composed along with the humor made this one a winner. Great moment captured!

Second Place

*St. Louis Review*, “Mass beneath the Arch” by Lisa Johnston

Great composition and lighting made this image stand out. A nice moment with the photographer’s ability to capture the crowd really told the story in one image.

Third Place

*Catholic Courier*, “Learning the ropes” by Jeff Witherow

Tight is right! This certainly hold true for this image. Great lens choice by the photographer patience waiting for the peak moment.
HONORABLE MENTIONS

“The Dialog, “Holy Cross School in Dover welcomes 3-year olds” by Don Blake

“The Catholic Standard, “The House of Mary, Adorned with its Crowning Jewel” by Jaclyn Lippelmann

N14B: BEST PHOTOGRAPH: Best General News Photo

FIRST PLACE

“The Boston Pilot, “Illuminated” by Gregory L. Tracy

This image quickly rose to the top of a category with many entries. The quality (and most likely fleeting) of light and awareness by the photographer is perfect. An all around outstanding image.

SECOND PLACE

“Clarion Herald, “Keeping the faith—for a third time” by Peter Finney Jr.

Kudos to the photographer for access in a sensitive situation. While the composition is wonderful, a little more emotion would have helped this rise to the top.

THIRD PLACE

“St. Louis Review, “Saying goodbye to Sister Ebo” by Lisa Johnston

Touching moment! Nice job by the photographer for making this image in a sensitive situation.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

“St. Louis Review, “Poor Clares in awe of the eclipse” by Lisa Johnston

“Tennessee Register, “Bishop Choby celebrates Mass while recovering” by Rick Musacchio

N14C: BEST PHOTOGRAPH: Best Portrait

FIRST PLACE

“St. Louis Review, “Waiting in the wings” by Lisa Johnston
In an overall strong category, the unique composition and lighting in this image made it a winner. Great vision by the photographer to create something special with the instruments and the subjects.

**Second Place**

*St. Louis Review, “CBC’s solid finish” by Lisa Johnston*

Great lighting and composition made this image stand out. Excellent arrangement of the subjects. A well thought out and executed idea by the photographer.

**Third Place**

*St. Louis Review, “Caring for God’s ‘special people’” by Lisa Johnston*

Just a great, real moment captured by the photographer that tells a story of compassion.

**Honorable Mentions**

*CatholicPhilly.com, “Across the Aisles: Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Philadelphia” by Sarah Webb*

*Catholic News Service, “Washington Vocation” by Tyler Orsburn*

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**N14d: BEST PHOTOGRAPH: Best Scenic, Still-Life, or Weather Photo**

**First Place**

*The Visitor, “Earth Day aurora” by Sandy Clemons*

Nice results on a difficult subject. The beauty of the northern lights is enhanced by the reflection in the lake. The image is nicely anchored by the pier and silhouettes of appreciative viewers. Great feel for Earth Day.

**Second Place**

*Catholic New York, “AFTER THE STORM” by John Woods*

Shows the power of Hurricane Maria on a metal and stone station of the cross.

**Third Place**

*St. Louis Review, “Solar flare during eclipse” by Teak Phillips*

Wonderful view of a rare sight. The solar flares provide more detail than the standard viewer was capable of seeing.
Honorable Mentions

*The Compass, “Cemetery grotto in Brussels” by Sam Lucero*

*The Compass, “Stars and Steeple” by Brad Birkholz*

**N14e: BEST PHOTOGRAPH: Best Photo-Illustration**

**First Place**

*St. Louis Review, “Prepared for the eclipse” by Lisa Johnston*

Simple yet very effective. I love the lighting.

**Second Place**


Very informative. Closeups of items and descriptions connect well. Garment background a nice connection.

**Third Place**

*The Georgia Bulletin, “God is Faithful—We are Thankful” by M. Alexander, T. Schulte*


**N14f: BEST PHOTOGRAPH: Best Sports Photo**

**First Place**

*St. Louis Review, “Keeping an eye on the puck” by Lisa Johnston*

Nice tight shot of goalie. Great timing of the goalies eyes connecting with the puck. Ice shavings in the air add to the action.

**Second Place**

*Arlington Catholic Herald, “Wrestlers elevated” by Joe Cashwell*

Great timing to show both wrestlers floating above the mat. An unusual sight you rarely see in wrestling.
Third Place

*Arlington Catholic Herald*, “Lacrosse team celebrates victory” by Joe Cashwell

Great celebration shot. Good position by the photographer in front of the celebrants. The girl leading the group sets the tone of the rest of the team.

Honorable Mention

*St. Louis Review*, “High jump before the rain” by Lisa Johnston

N14g: BEST PHOTOGRAPH: Share the Journey

First Place

*The Florida Catholic Palm Beach*, “AIM retreatants harvests fruits of Holy Spirit beyond limits” by Linda Reeves

The connection of Sharing the Journey is evident by the smile on Sister Sullivan and Erika’s faces. The sharing is completed with Sister’s hand on Erika’s shoulder.

Second Place

*Catholic Courier*, “Rochester is still a ‘sanctuary city’” by Jeff Witherow

Crowd and sign connect the concept of Sharing the Journey.

Third Place

*Catholic News Service*, “Pope Shares the Journey” by Paul Haring

Good timing of Pope’s gesture while addressing immigration and the journey. Oddly framed.

N15a: BEST MULTIPLE PICTURE PACKAGE: News Package

First Place

*St. Louis Review*, “Mastermind at work” by Lisa Johnston, Teak Phillips, Jennifer Brinker, Joe Kenny, Dave Luecking
The many entries in this category included packages with several photos that were mediocre alongside a few strong images. This first-place entry was not only a clean layout, but each individual image was a strong, well composed story-telling image.

**Second Place**

*Arlington Catholic Herald, “Diocesan pilgrimage to shrine” by Elizabeth A. Elliott, Joe Cashwell*

Really nice variety of impactful images with the obvious effort by the photographer(s) to capture some really unique point of views elevated this package among the rest.

**Third Place**

*The Monitor, “Light of the Church: Our Lady of Guadalupe pilgrimage, Mass draw 1,000 from across Diocese to Trenton’s Cathedral” by Clara Baumann, Craig Pittelli, Armando Machado*

Great color and overall strong images of the event. Removing a few of the smaller photos in order to play some of the stronger images larger would of given the package more impact.

**Honorable Mention**

*Southern Cross/Diocese of Savannah, “Catholic youth ‘called’ to discipleship in mission” by Jessica L. Marsala*

**N15b: BEST MULTIPLE PICTURE PACKAGE: Feature Package**

**First Place**

*St. Louis Review, “Caring for God’s ‘special people’” by Lisa Johnston, Jennifer Brinker*

Many of the entries in this category contained packages with several unnecessary images where the quantity outweighed the quality. This first place entry has less images than many, but the quality of the individual images is very strong. It tells a compelling story with powerful, real moments.

**Second Place**

*Arlington Catholic Herald, “Celebrating life” by Connor Bergeron, Ashleigh Kassock, Zoey Maraist*

Just a great all-around collection of images that really told the story of the event(s). The variety of angles and different perspectives, along with wonderful lighting and moments, elevated this entry.

**Third Place**
Texas Catholic Herald, “Embracing the 50 Days of Easter” by James Ramos

The combination of strong lighting, unique perspectives, and a clean layout helped this piece stand out.

Honorable Mentions

Catholic News Service, “Virginia Encuentro” by Tyler Orsburn

The Catholic Register, “Lasting images of a walk in faith” by Vincenzo Pietropaolo

N15c: BEST MULTIPLE PICTURE PACKAGE: Sports Package

First Place

Arlington Catholic Herald, “Rough and rugby” by Joe Cashwell, Staff

Great collection of images that worked well as a group, while each image stood alone as strong sports images capturing great action and a real feel for the event.

Second Place

Arlington Catholic Herald, “Panthers fall short” by Joe Cashwell

Well-covered event to not only capture the action, but the emotion of the loss also helped to tell the story.

Third Place


Some nice emotional images and good action. A few of the images could have used a tighter crop and a lower depth of field to eliminate the distractions in the background.

Honorable Mention

Arlington Catholic Herald, “Panthers defeat Cardinals” by Joe Cashwell

N16a: BEST USE OF ART OR GRAPHICS: Best Use of Art or Graphics

First Place
St. Louis Review, “Practice virtue” by Abigail Witte, Lisa Johnston

Excellent use of graphics to enhance the article and nice choice of white graphics and text on the cover.

Second Place

The Catholic Miscellany, “Holy Week: The days, the history, & the traditions” by Caroline Lindsey

Textural feel of the artwork adds to this piece.

Third Place

St. Louis Review, “Between Heaven and Earth” by Lisa Johnston, Abigail Witte

Artwork truly enhances the story and aids reader’s understanding.

Honorable Mention

Arlington Catholic Herald, “10 ways to help the poor” by Ashleigh Kassock

N16b: BEST USE OF ART OR GRAPHICS: Best Original Illustration

First Place

The Catholic Sun, “Three Kings” by Mick Welsh

Beautiful, rich illustration.

Second Place

The Tablet, “Holy Week and Easter Masses on NET-TV” by Israel Ochoa

The boxy/linear nature of the illustration and color choices is appealing to the eye.

Third Place

The Compass, “Growing in Faith | Programs and Services” by Amy Kawula and Rachel Cunningham

Beautiful and soft illustration that adds to the information provided.
N16c: BEST USE OF ART OR GRAPHICS: Best Chart or Information Graphic

First Place

*Catholic News Herald,* “Catholic Charities Week” by Kathleen Durkin

Use of color, graphic choices and division make this interesting and active.

Second Place

*The Leaven,* “Do’s and Don’ts of Confession” by Joe Bollig and Todd Habiger

Easy to understand and follow.

Third Place

*National Catholic Reporter,* “Human trafficking and the sex trade: A modern form of slavery” by Toni-Art Ortiz

Nicely divided with enough information to enhance the story but not overwhelming.

Honorable Mention

*The Tablet,* “Generations of Faith – Your Generosity at Work” by Israel Ochoa

N18: BEST HEADLINE

First Place

*Catholic San Francisco,* “Lenten Exercises: Sisters race to support aging friars” by Christina Gray

Headline captured fine story with extraordinary and relevant photo added up to prize-winning entry. Mention of a religious theme in the headline also made it important to Catholics (and many other Lenten followers). Any time a religious and especially Catholic theme is shown is a plus for attracting readers of these publications.

Second Place

*Catholic Star Herald,* “Freshly painted fences make good neighbors” by Carl Peters

Well-done story with a carefully posed, attractive and relevant photo. Packages like this are going to be prize-winners when a headline captures the story.

Third Place
At first I read the story to understand what the headline meant. But that’s the point: I wanted to read the story! Then well-done article and good photo pulled along. The headline-writer took a risk and it paid off.

Honorable Mentions

The Tablet, “Holy Stuff! They’re Better Known As Sacramentals”
The Evangelist, “ORGAN STOPS: Music minister retires after four decades in Schenectady” by staff

N19a: BEST SUPPLEMENT OR SPECIAL ISSUE: Best Regular Special Supplement

First Place

The Catholic Register, “Estate Planning”

A planned giving section could easily sink into a ‘give me your money and your life’ quagmire. But not this section. Yes, ample space is devoted to ways to give to the Church, but this outstanding section offers help in planning ahead, how to deal with cremation, estate trustees, affects of tax reforms on giving, how debts of the deceased are handled, assisted suicide, wills, end of life care and even a reminder that now might be a good time to dejunk. These topics, along with inspirational stories from people who give and those who receive make this a wonderful reminder about dying for the living.

Second Place

Catholic Standard, “Catholic Schools Week” Stories by Kelly Seegers, Richard Szczepanowski and Mark Zimmermann, photos by Jaclyn Lippelmann

Catholic schools must show how to integrate academics with spirituality and this section shows how it’s done. A kindergarten class learns that some children have no shoes, so pupils collect shoes. Spiritual direction along with tutoring is offered at a high school. A computer class sets up an app to make it easier to find food pantries. Another example: Rewrite the Ten Commandments using positive words: “Only believe in one God.” And this: “Use God’s name in a respectful way.” And praying before listening to a speech by Martin Luther King Jr. This section clearly shows the connection between academics and spirituality in well-written and nicely selected stories.

Third Place


A truly inspiring section because readers are treated to a dazzling display of outstanding students prepared for the next step. For one, it’s football and for three young women it’s collegiate lacrosse, field hockey and ice hockey. But we also read about plans to help expand Middle East and North Africa educational opportunities. Biochemistry is in the future
for one Asian immigrant. And through all the stories we read of service opportunities utilized within their school years. Well written and well displayed, this is a wonderful read from beginning to end.

Honorable Mentions

_Arlington Catholic Herald, “Graduation” by Catholic Herald Staff_

_The Monitor, “Ablaze: DYC 2017” by Monitor staff and freelance partners_

**N19b: BEST SUPPLEMENT OR SPECIAL ISSUE: Best One-Time Special Issue**

First Place

_The Irish Catholic, “Reformation 500: Five Hundred Years, 1517-2017” by Greg Daly_

Said Pope Francis of Martin Luther: “Perhaps some of his methods were not right, although at that time...the Church was not exactly a model to emulate.” And that pretty much sums up this remarkable study of Luther, his times and the consequences of his questioning. We get a deeper understanding of Luther’s impact through a look at the attitude of peasants, the widespread dissemination of Luther’s concerns via a new invention, the printing press, and the Church at that time. This wonderfully detailed and well-written section certainly could be a text for anyone wanting to know more about Luther, his times and the consequences of his deep concern.

Second Place

_The Texas Catholic, “Marriage: A faithful, committed life” by David Sedeno, Seth Gonzales, Jenna Teter, Cathy Harasta, Michael Gresham_

This outstanding section honors marriage by basically telling stories that mirror marriage, from the comical through the spiritual and into the deeply emotional. So, we read about the nervous groom who grasped a pew for support so strongly that continuation of the ceremony was in jeopardy. And the couple who attributed their joyful 50 years together to spiritual devotion. And the priest, a former Episcopalian pastor, who broke the news he and his wife had struggled with: The onset of Alzheimer’s. A must-read for anyone considering marriage and for those enjoying the beauty of a deeply committed marriage.

Third Place


Just ask a sister if you want to know the truth about her brother. Or someone who competed with and against that brother. And of course, those who are helped and comforted. And the words of the person himself. Those angles make this tribute to Archbishop Charles C. Thompson so readable. For the record, the sister adored him, the cross country runner admired his dedication, the Hispanic community opened their arms to him and the archbishop chose as his motto: Christ the Cornerstone. Outstanding piece of journalism.
Honorable Mentions

The Michigan Catholic, “Thank God Ahead of Time” by The Michigan Catholic staff (“Thank God ahead of time” is a saying for which Blessed Solanus is famous; it also fit the publishing schedule of this issue, which hit stands days before the beatification Mass.

The Catholic Sun, “Bishop Moynihan remembered” by Katherine Long, Tom Maguire, Willie Putmon, Mark Klenz

N19c: BEST SUPPLEMENT OR SPECIAL ISSUE: Best Special Supplement on a Bishop’s Transition

First Place

The Michigan Catholic, “Chosen to Serve” by The Michigan Catholic staff

Outstanding effort to not only acquaint us with two auxiliary bishops through the words of family and acquaintances, but to also acquaint the public about what all of this means. So, we get headlines like “The tools of a bishop: What the miter, crosier and ring mean,” and “What’s the difference between an archbishop and an auxiliary bishop?”, “How are new bishops selected, anyway?” and “Bishops of where? Titular sees carry centuries of history, tradition.” Useful as well as instructional and uplifting.

Second Place

Catholic Outlook, “Thank you Bishop Kicanas” by Jessica Caraballo, Omar Rodriguez, Steff Koeneman, Michael Brown

This slick tribute to Bishop Kicanas gets right to the point. After a brief introduction, the magazine is turned over to the bishop for a first person account of his life and then to reflections from Church and civic leaders. Gorgeous pictures complete this wonderfully put together reflection. Easy to read and easy on the eye, this is a collectors’ dream.

Third Place

The Texas Catholic, “Bishop Edward J. Burns” by Seth Gonzales, Jenna Teter, David Sedeno, Cathy Harasta, Michael Gresham

What’s it like to move from the remote rainforest of Alaska with its nearly 300 days of rain to the bustling commercial hub of Texas and its less than 40 inches of rain all year? Editors of this tribute to the new bishop of Dallas set out to find the answer for this interesting and informative section. That contrast also is part of Bishop Burns’ reflections on his move. Those pieces combine with praise from clergy and friends to create a wonderfully easy to read commemorative issue.

Honorable Mentions
Intermountain Catholic-Diocese of Salt Lake City, “Welcome, Bishop Solis!” by Laura Vallejo, Cris Paulsen, Arthur Heredia, Marie Mischel


N21a: BEST SPORTS JOURNALISM: Sports news

First Place

Texas Catholic Herald, “We Believed: Houston Astros win World Series in biblical fashion; After Harvey, hope on parade as region rallies after epic win” by James Ramos

Charming and richly reported story that portrays the resiliency of a city and a faith community amidst the backdrop of the devastating floods that ravaged the Houston area.

Second Place

The Compass, “All eyes are on Holy Hill” by MARYANGELA ROMÁN

This story did a wonderful job of reporting on a below-the-radar connection between U.S. Open Championship, one of golf’s four major tournaments, and the Discalced Carmelite Fathers from the neighboring Holy Hill shrine. The story vividly shows the effort to combine the golf tournament and the incredible beauty of the nearby shrine as a means of bringing spectators from around the world to a deeper religious connection, revealing a merger between sports and faith.

Third Place

The Visitor, “Baseball’s No. 1 draft pick says Minnesota is ‘where God intended me to be’” by Kristi Anderson

A wonderfully vivid portrayal of a Major League Baseball prospect who is revealed to be grounded by the faith he developed as a non-Catholic attending a Catholic school. Excellent use of secondary sources to paint a picture of a humble rising star.

Honorable Mentions

The Catholic Post, “The Spirit of Sport” by Tom Dermody

The Dialog, “Catholic school athletes have their baselines covered” by Mike Lang

N21b: BEST SPORTS JOURNALISM: Sports feature or column

First Place
St. Louis Review, “Street soccer goalie to play in Homeless World Cup” by Joseph Kenny

Powerful story of sport promoting important social change. In this case, a Catholic-rooted organization sponsors a soccer team, comprised of homeless men, that competes around the world. Colorful portrayal of how a homeless man is using his experience of being part of a team to empower himself to change his life. Excellent use of a sidebar story to fill in other necessary details.

Second Place

The Catholic Spirit, St. Paul, MN, “Vikings offensive coach Shurmur keeps spiritual playbook ready” by Matthew Davis

Well-written, descriptive story of the daily religious rituals of an NFL football coach and how the tie between faith and athletics began and evolved for him and spread to other family members. A sports profile not bogged down by the often mundane details of the game.

Third Place

The Leaven, “Simply the Best” by Todd Habiger

Honorable Mentions

Rhode Island Catholic, “Happy Trails: With the Moguls in Her Life Behind Her, Special Olympics Skier Draws Inspiration From Family, Strong Catholic Faith” by Rick Snizek


N22: BEST SEASONAL ISSUE

First Place

The Evangelist, “Christmas Issue” by staff

From the wonderfully appealing cover picture of a family depicting Mary, Joseph and Jesus, to the back page spotlighting children of all ages, this issue is full of Christmas cheer along with reminders of the more ordinary—saving seats for Christmas visitors and Christmas Mass obligations. We are asked where is Christmas and then we are told: homeless shelters, inside children, Nativity scenes, in gifts sent to needy children around the world, regifting to benefit the poor who missed out on an initial gift giving, and even residents of Santa Claus, Indiana, who each year answer thousands of letters.

Second Place

The Catholic Register, “A Saviour is born”
“A Saviour is born,” proclaims the cover and the rest of this special Christmas issue reminds us of what that means to us. High school student adopting needy families, the need for peace, a wonderful poem reminding us where to find Christ, help for homeless youth and a wonderful gift to a parish by a Buddhist. We see professional nativity art and less-than-professional children art. It’s all Christmas and it’s all here in this outstanding effort reminding us what Christmas is all about.

Third Place

*The Georgia Bulletin, “Eucharistic Congress 2017” by Georgia Bulletin staff*

Each year the Georgia Bulletin covers the Eucharistic Congress from every linguistic, cultural, age and geographical angle in an easy to read and certainly complete look at this gathering of thousands. We follow along from the opening Mass through services and discussions, to a final piece reminding us that God does not want us to be discouraged in this time of mercy. Another thoughtful and inspiring peek into this thoughtful and inspiring event.

**N23a: BEST REPORTING ON THE CELEBRATION OF A SACRAMENT > N23a: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 5,000 or less**

First Place

*The Boston Pilot, “Prison ministry brings Middlesex inmate to Baptism”*

A captivating lead pulls in readers, and the rest of the story provides the details and quotes to make this story come to life. Strong photography. This one’s a winner.

Second Place

*The Boston Pilot, “Sacred oils prepared for Chrism Mass” by Mark Labbe*

Would have liked to know more about how the oils are actually prepared, not just bottled, but this is an interesting story that goes beyond typical coverage. Nicely done.

Third Place

*The Boston Pilot, “Hundreds prepare to enter Catholic Church at Rite of Election” by Mark Labbe*

The reporter includes a nice cross-section of the elect and uses quotes to provide color and context. An interesting read.

Honorable Mention

*The Observer, “Annual Be Reconciled Offered for 4th Year” by staff*
N23b: BEST REPORTING ON THE CELEBRATION OF A SACRAMENT: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place

St. Louis Review, “Present to the people” by staff

Outstanding, in-depth coverage that uses a variety of angles to showcase the ordination and the people behind it. Great work.

Second Place

The Evangelist, “New priest” by Kate Blain, Nate Whitchurch

Nice job conveying the personality of the new priest.

Third Place

Arlington Catholic Herald, “Growing the Catholic Church” by Elizabeth A. Elliott

Nice coverage with ample supporting quotes from those involved.

Honorable Mention

St. Louis Review, “Processions bring Jesus to the neighborhood” by Jennifer Brinker Lisa Johnston

N23c: BEST REPORTING ON THE CELEBRATION OF A SACRAMENT: Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less

First Place

Hawaii Catholic Herald, “Conversion stories” by Darlene J.M. Dela Cruz

Great piece exploring why two people turned to the Catholic faith. Nice job of digging into a few stories to provide a compelling read.

Second Place

The Michigan Catholic, “Priests in the Park” by Dan Meloy

Nicely done. High-quality coverage with lots of interviews and perspectives from both the priests and confessors.
Third Place

Hawaii Catholic Herald, “In solemn rite, bishop ordains Alfred Guerrero to the priesthood” by Patrick Downes

Excellent detail to help readers feel as if they were at the ceremony. Would have liked more detail about Father Guerrero’s background and calling to the priesthood, but overall this is a strong piece.

N23d: BEST REPORTING ON THE CELEBRATION OF A SACRAMENT: Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place

The Catholic Sun, “Anointing of the sick brings spiritual, sometimes physical healing” Writer and Photographer: Joyce Coronel; Graphic Designer: Mick Welsh

Great job telling a concise and compelling story.

Second Place

The Georgia Bulletin, “Newly ordained priests urged to imitate St. John the Baptist” by N. Golden, M. Alexander

Excellent work and in-depth coverage giving a feel for the personalities of the newly ordained. Nice job.

Third Place

The Georgia Bulletin, “Ministry in women’s prison in Alto leads five to seek Confirmation” by N. Golden, M. Alexander

Interesting story and writing that gives readers a sense of being there. Nice job.

Honorable Mention

Denver Catholic, “I do means I do” by Therese Bussen

N24: BEST COVERAGE OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY ISSUES

First Place

National Catholic Register, “Conscience in Residency Project; Trump on Religious Freedom; Contraceptive Mandate Relief in Sight” by Elisabeth Deffner, Joan Desmond, Brian Fraga
It is often hard to top the work of the National Catholic Register and you can’t this year. The article “Conscience in Residency Project” introduces tough topics and the fine doctors in the battle. The discussion on President Trump and religious freedom structured by Joan Frawley Desmond is a vibrant and complete article. The piece on contraceptive mandate relief is another important topic with good insight and coverage.

Second Place

St. Louis Review, “Life and liberty; Life issues intertwined; Attorney general has history of defending religious liberty” by staff

Putting a pair of stories on legal issues next to each other might seem like a mistake. But, the St. Louis Review used stories on House Bill 174, that would acknowledge the rights of alternatives-to-abortion agencies to freely assemble and engage in religious practices or speech without government interference, directly next to a new law in St. Louis on pregnancy and reproduction. The treatment of these pieces shows readers just how important legislation and legal matters impact our faith and daily lives.

Third Place

The Catholic Register, “Religious freedom”

The Catholic Register puts a face on the battlefield in Canada’s “Professional Obligations and Human Rights Policy, which would force referrals for abortions and for assisted suicide. It shows us Dr. Ramona Coelho (a local Ontario doctor) and how it would impact her work. It always helps to see people and not just debate policy.

Honorable Mentions

Our Sunday Visitor, “Taking exception; Undoing the HHS mandate; Pluralism, accommodation at core of cake case.” by OSV Editorial Board, Helen Alvare, Gretchen R Crowe

The Evangelist, “Fortnight for Freedom/Religious liberty” by staff

N28a: BEST REPORTING ON VOCATIONS TO PRIESTHOOD, RELIGIOUS LIFE OR DIACONATE:
Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less

First Place

The Compass, “Five priests ordained in Ledgeview” by Jeff Kurowski

The priesthood means so much, including taking out the parish picnic garbage. And it’s all here in this vocation section that offers space for five new at the priesthood to discuss the route that led them to their current callings, Excellent writing allows us to make that journey with the five, past sports, past vocations and, yes, past girls.

Second Place

The Compass, “Vocations Commitment” by Jeff Kurowski & Amy Kawula
The central theme of this carefully crafted special section on vocations is commitment to God, yes, but also to others, especially for those of all ages seeking an education, because this section focuses on dedication to education. Those pursuing a better life for themselves or for others will gain important insights into what it takes to help others through inspired teaching.

Third Place

_The Beacon, “God is his co-pilot” by Michael Wojcik_

Whether it was God’s intervention, the crucifix, the prayer card or the air bags, Father Nwosu survived the crash that totaled his car but only bloodied his mouth. The car had rolled and flipped so today the priest is grateful for life and uses his experience to testify of heavenly protection. A well written inspiring piece.

Honorable Mention

_Rhode Island Catholic, “Celebrating a ‘Golden Summer’ at Camp Dorothy” by Daniel J. Holmes_

**N28b: BEST REPORTING ON VOCATIONS TO PRIESTHOOD, RELIGIOUS LIFE OR DIACONATE:**
Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place

_Orange County Catholic, “Mindful Pursuits” by Larry Urish_

The priest celebrating Mass is a familiar figure. Now picture him on a surfboard or racing a motorcycle or installing a grill on a vintage car. Yes, priests have a life outside of the parish hall, and this short article beautifully leads us to that life. A marvelously creative approach to the life of a priest.

Second Place

_The Evangelist, “Vocations Section” by staff_

A complete package on vocations with so many small gifts inside. Like the hospital chaplain frustrated that he can’t make pain disappear. Or the deacon’s appeal for dialogue that invites rather than discourages discussion. Much to admire in this wonderful approach to religious vocations.

Third Place

_The Tablet, “Priest Pursues Prophets on Periphery of Diocese” by Ed Wilkinson_

Street artists: Influential prophets? That’s how Father Mann sees them. He also sees them as among the peripheries Pope Francis said should be preached to. And so Father Mann does just that as wonderfully explained and illustrated in
N28c: BEST REPORTING ON VOCATIONS TO PRIESTHOOD, RELIGIOUS LIFE OR DIACONATE: Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less

First Place

The Monitor, “Vocations” by Monitor staff and freelance partners

Many sections devoted to vocations are long on biographies and statistics and short on interest. Not in this wonderfully-organized-and-written effort. The role of family and local church leaders in guiding members to consider church vocations is stressed. Plus the peace that comes upon accepting a call. But we also get personal stories of how all of this works to improve lives. And a reminder that we must magnify callings to the point of being a true saint. Very nicely organized, presented, written and thought out.

Second Place

Catholic Standard, “The Living Water: Archdiocesan priest gives gift of water and faith through mission in Togo, Africa” by Kelly Sankowski

This piece combines clever writing and the story of a remarkable priest who not only provides water to quench immediate thirst, but also the everlasting water that quenches spiritual thirst. Both the writer and the priest make such an accomplishment secondary to the value of all of this to the people served. Very well done.

Third Place

The Monitor, “Momentous Journey: Diocese welcomes new shepherds as Bishop O’Connell ordains four men to priesthood” by Jennifer Mauro

This well-written article begins with a deacon nervously awaiting ordination to a priest and ends with that same person reflecting on his new life. In between are the rites and words that make it all possible. A very well crafted peek into the tension and joy of entering a new vocation.

Honorable Mention
The Michigan Catholic, “Boundless Confidence in the Lord” by Dan Meloy

The Catholic Post, “Priests Pedaling for Prayers: 340-mile ride across diocese sought increase in vocations” by Jennifer Willems

N28d: BEST REPORTING ON VOCATIONS TO PRIESTHOOD, RELIGIOUS LIFE OR DIACONATE: Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place

The Catholic Spirit, St. Paul, MN, “Priesthood Ordination” by The Catholic Spirit Staff

The archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis ordained 10 priests at one time so this called for an extensive examination of the lives of these 10. And excellent writing conveys what we need to know about how these 10 found their way to the altar. Their lives varied enough to make each story stand alone, yet enough commonality exists to create a wonderfully readable section on vocations.

Second Place

The Visitor, “Farm life, family open door to vocation” by Kristi Anderson, photos by Paul Middlestaedt

Faith, family and farming brought a young man to the priesthood and this well-designed article allows him the space to explain his route. And he does an excellent job. Those quotes and space to let him speak rather than someone else telling the story sets this apart from others. Very nicely illustrated and written.

Third Place

Florida Catholic Miami, “Archbishop ordains nine to priesthood” by Ana Rodriguez-Soto, Tom Tracy, Marlene Quaroni

This lavishly illustrated section provides insight into why and how nine men chose the priesthood. The strength of this section is in the varied background of those nine so each story stands alone, from jet setter to investment banker to those who felt they were going nowhere until discerning that the priesthood was for them. Outstanding presentation and writing.

Honorable Mention

The A.D. Times, “Spotlight on Seminarians” by Staff Writer Tara Connolly

Denver Catholic, “For Christ alone” by Carmen Elena Villa
N28e: BEST REPORTING ON VOCATIONS TO PRIESTHOOD, RELIGIOUS LIFE OR DIACONATE: National Newspaper or Wire Service

First Place

National Catholic Register, “Monastic Life in Ireland by Michael Kelly, New Priests Honor Mom with Old Tradition by Patti Armstrong, Doctor the Priesthood is Calling By Nicholas Wolfram Smith”

A wonderful package that spans all that is Catholic, the small but steady growth of monastic life in Ireland, a warm and fuzzy family story of two brothers who became priests, and a look at those who have combined PhD knowledge with priestly wisdom. Each article stands alone, but also becomes part of a bigger picture of vocations.

Second Place

The Irish Catholic, “Maynooth: ready for a vocations reboot?” by Greg Daly

This carefully crafted piece begins with an examination of the troubled Maynooth seminary in Ireland but soon widens to look at not only efforts to reinvent Maynooth but also to the numbers of persons studying for the clergy in Ireland and worldwide to give us a taste of cautious optimism seasoned with a healthy dose of realism. A great read for those contemplating the future of the clergy.

Third Place

Aleteia.org, “Millennial and monastic: It doesn’t get more counter-cultural than that” by Elizabeth Scalia, Fr. Aquinas Guilbeau, O.P.

Millennials in monasteries? Women moving into contemplative communities at a time when many of their age contemplate what to watch on TV? Perhaps this is oversimplification, but this very readable piece uses interviews with three nuns to show that on line means a relationship between them and God, not between them and Facebook. A most readable view of what counterculture is really all about.

N29: BEST COVERAGE OF IMMIGRATION

First Place

St. Louis Review, “Yearning to breathe free; The migrant road; Friends of DACA student question policy change” by Joseph Kenny Lisa Johnston

Excellent writing throughout. Focus on individuals enhances impact on reader. Fine photos are given space to get reader’s attention. Strong background material explains the issues to reader.

Second Place
The Record newspaper, “Fear is the only certainty, Dreamers say” by Ruby Thomas, Jessica Able, Marnie McAllister

A strong steady series of articles, commentary and editorial support. Short individual stories of individual immigrants are very compelling. Good photos support theme.

Third Place

Catholic San Francisco, “Best Coverage of Immigration” by Christina Gray, Valerie Schmalz

Focus on individual family helps explain the issues. Good commentary by Archbishop identifies this as a major issue for Catholics.

Honorable Mentions


Our Sunday Visitor, “Who has the power to help immigrants?; Seeking a path; Uncertainty reigns for DACA’s ‘Dreamers’” by Don Clemmer, OSV Editorial Board and Brian Fraga.

N30: BEST REGULAR COLUMN BY A BISHOP OR ARCHBISHOP

First Place

The Catholic Moment, “Selection of columns by Bishop Timothy L. Doherty” by Bishop Timothy L. Doherty.

Strong writing on important topics. The messages conveyed are clear, concise, and easy for readers to understand. Excellent work!

Second Place

Sooner Catholic—Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, “Put Out Into the Deep” by The Most Rev. Paul S. Coakley—Archbishop of Oklahoma City

Strong voice on interesting topics. A great job relating to and connecting with readers.

Third Place

Diocese of Beaumont, “Working Together for Good in His Name” by Bishop Curtis J. Guillory, SVD

Honorable Mentions

Catholic New York, “Lord, To Whom Shall We Go?” by Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan
N34: BEST EXPLANATION OF THE CHURCH’S POSITION ON MARRIAGE

First Place

*Our Sunday Visitor*, “Polyamory and the American mainstream; A lasting bridge; Prenups, marriage: No match made it heaven” by Maria Wiering; OSV Editorial Board; Patti Maguire Armstrong

This set of stories upholds journalistic integrity while negotiating views on highly interesting and relevant subject matter.

Second Place

*The Catholic Spirit*, St. Paul, MN, “Catholic marriage vs. secular culture,” “Recommitting: the Church’s new marriage rite,” and “Our marriages support our priests” by Jessica Trygstad, Father John Paul Erickson and Brad Parent

This coverage is clear, succinct, easy to understand, and above all, useful to the reader.

Third Place

*The Irish Catholic*, “The Church’s challenge to reach out to lost sheep may be more logistical than doctrinal; ‘The Pope is a Catholic’; Building on doctrine that speaks to real human situations” by Greg Daly

Well-reasoned and accessible writing make this coverage useful and impactful.

N35: BEST COVERAGE OF LOCAL POLITICS

First Place

*St. Louis Review*, “A sanctuary of life; Life and liberty; Pro-life strikes back” by Jennifer Brinker Joseph Kenny

Stories do an admirable job of following the progression of a controversial bill, from start to finish, impacting religious freedom. The reporting offers an in-depth look at the various aspects of the bill and explains in detail, with an extensive number of sources, its potential impact.

Second Place

*Rhode Island Catholic*, “Pro-abortion legislation could bring radical change to R.I. abortion laws; 2018 budget to restore bus passes for elderly, disabled RIPTA riders; Senate passes bill to end ‘death-in-prison’ sentences for convicted youth” by Lauren Clem & Rick Snizek

Consistently impressive reporting and writing on a wide-range, and often complex, local political issues, from pro-abortion legislation, to bus passes for the elderly and a proposal to end death-in-prison sentences for convicted youth. Strongly descriptive and informative reporting.
Catholic Standard, “Catholics and other faith groups voice concern over D.C.’s proposed ‘rain tax’ increase,” “Despite opposition, physician-assisted suicide law takes effect in the District,” “Physician-assisted suicide bill fails in Maryland for third straight year” Story by Richard Szczepanowski, photos by Jaclyn Lippelmann

Quality explanatory reporting on politic issues as wide ranging as physician-assisted suicide and a proposed “rain tax” increase.

N40: BEST REDESIGN

First Place

The East Tennessee Catholic, “The East Tennessee Catholic” by Bill Brewer, Dan McWilliams, Jim Wogan, Emily Booker

Redesigning one’s publication is scary. Double scary for a staff that is restructuring. In an effort to provide more information to readers, staff at the East Tennessee Catholic went back and shifted its publication from a tabloid to a broadsheet. It was a great decision. The newspaper today has a newsy, modern feel and a sense of more information. A fringe benefit was almost twice as much space as before for its Spanish-language section. It’s an attractive and newsy makeover.

Second Place


This newspaper moved to modernize its look and layout with a stronger reliance on color and visual placement. It was a success. It offers a clean, newsy feel from its redesigned logo to a much-improved page 2/3 designed to draw readers into the paper.

Third Place

Western New York Catholic, “Western New York Catholic Redesign” by Western New York Catholic Staff

In an effort to attract more readers, the Western New York Catholic redesigned itself bringing a more modern look. It achieved a successful redesign that was hurt by a stolid feel despite such improvements as a nifty new table of contents on page 3.

N45: BEST COVERAGE OF THE PAPAL TRIPS OVERSEAS

First Place

Catholic News Service, “Pope Francis’ visit to Colombia” by David Agren, Cindy Wooden, Paul Haring
Excellent detail in reporting, very well written. Most informative and sophisticated journalism of any entry in this category.

Second Place

National Catholic Reporter, “In Egypt, Francis appeals for peace; Francis pushes for peace in Colombia; Rohingya plight dominates pope’s trip to Myanmar and Bangladesh” by Joshua J. McElwee, Soli Salgado

Excellent job reporting on a variety of news events around the world. Very well written.

Third Place

Catholic News Service, “Pope Francis’ visit to Myanmar, Bangladesh” by Cindy Wooden, Robert Duncan, Paul Haring, Tyler Orsburn

Excellent range of coverage of papal visits to several locations.

Honorable Mentions

The Irish Catholic, “Pope faces a difficult challenge amidst tension in Myanmar; Catholics express joy amidst Pontiff’s politically-charged visit; Pope excels amid delicate politics and conflict zones” by Chai Brady

The Tablet, “The Pope in Colombia” by Ines San Martin, Antonina Zielinska, Melissa Enaje

N46a: BEST COVERAGE OF VIOLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES: Diocesan newspaper

First Place

St. Louis Review, “Affirmation of peace is commitment to justice; High-fives build trust, erase divide; Whatever happened to trust?” by staff

Compelling and important coverage of a local community, from a Catholic angle.

Second Place

The Catholic Voice, “Support for families who suffered violence” by Carrie McClish

The support for families that suffered violence coverage is important, needed and well written.

N48a: BEST COVERAGE OF PRO-LIFE ISSUES: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less
First Place

Arkansas Catholic, “Death penalty in Arkansas” by Malea Hargett

The stories of execution are gruesome and told with detail. Yet telling them is a moral imperative borne by the author and paper that effectively expands the Church’s pro-life teaching.

Second Place

The Observer, “Best Coverage of Pro-life issues” by Louise Brass, Amanda Hudson, Penny Wiegert

This coverage uses three different themes to address pro-life issues. The positive nature of the coverage provides a unique tone to the conversation about this important topic.

Third Place

The Boston Pilot, “Local students ‘Witness to Life’ at March—Counter abortion with love, says 40 Days for Life prayer launch speaker—Palliative Care Colloquium addresses spirituality in health care” by Mark Labbe

Good detail and description characterize this series of stories chronicling three approaches to pro-life issues.

N48b: BEST COVERAGE OF PRO-LIFE ISSUES: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place

St. Louis Review, “Power of one; Journey to adoption; Alternatives-to-abortion agencies enrich lives” by Jennifer Brinker

Strong writing, great graphics and photos as well as well-told intriguing stories characterize this pro-life coverage as distinctive.

Second Place

Arlington Catholic Herald, “Lodging for Life; Vigil for an execution; The Power of One; Doing the job of God’s angels; Free medical clinic blessed in Manassas; A lifetime of love in two days” by Zoey Maraist, Elizabeth A. Elliott, Connor Bergeron, Mary Stachyra Lopez

The Catholic Herald coverage represents pro-life teaching from womb to tomb with intriguing stories of personal struggle and triumph as well as informative background articles.

Third Place

The Criterion, “Pro-Life Stories / Adoption Stories” by Natalie Hoefer
This refreshing series on adoption moves the pro-life needle beyond rhetoric to life-changing Catholic Christian action. The writing filled with poignant quotes and accompanying family photos tell the story with joy.

**N48d: BEST COVERAGE OF PRO-LIFE ISSUES: Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more**

**First Place**

_The Catholic Spirit, St. Paul, MN, “Cathedral baby,” “Sidewalk counselor” and “Modern adoption” by Maria Wiering, Dave Hrbacek and Jessica Trygstad_

Compelling stories told with good detail and quotes mark this coverage.

**Second Place**


Vivid and colorful photos and text characterize this coverage.

**N48e: BEST COVERAGE OF PRO-LIFE ISSUES: National Newspaper or Wire Service**

**First Place**

_National Catholic Reporter, “States debate death penalty issues; Arkansas’ execution schedule spurs activists; Ohio scrutinizes execution drug” by Kristen Whitney Daniels_

Strong descriptive writing chock full of well researched facts and relevant details make this series of stories stand out as the best treatment of pro-life issues.

**Second Place**

_National Catholic Register, “Small Blessings: Volunteers Give Proper Burial to Babies By Elisabeth Deffner; Human Coalition Helps Change Hearts of Abortion Determined Mothers by Joan Desmond; Abortion Divide Deepens in US by Brian Fraga” by Elisabeth Deffner, Joan Desmond, Brian Fraga_

Strong writing and storytelling characterize these articles.

**Third Place**

_The Catholic Register, “Pro-life coverage” by Michael Swan_
The compelling personal stories of heroes committed to pro-life action and response sets two of these articles apart from the fray. The companion editorial is clearly stated and presents a moral imperative.

**N50a: BEST REPORTING ON ECUMENICAL AND INTERFAITH ISSUES: Diocesan newspaper**

**First Place**

_The Visitor, “Together in hope: Catholics and Lutherans commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation” by Kristi Anderson_

Some of the packages in this category were more elaborate, but I don’t think any other one struck me the way this did—a Catholic-Lutheran service, a Catholic-Lutheran small group, and a comprehensive list of other such gatherings in the local area. Seems to me that a reader would be well-served by this coverage.

**Second Place**

_Arlington Catholic Herald, “Putting the church back together; Seeking unity in uncertain times; Interreligious kindness” by Zoey Maraist, Elizabeth A. Elliott_

Multiple sources, good context, well-written.

**Third Place**

_Arkansas Catholic, “Call to light/Break in unity observed by coming together/Shared faith found in Advent” by Aprille Hanson Malea Hargett_

Collectively, these three articles serve as a unifying force for the readers of the publication.

**Honorable Mentions**

_Florida Catholic Miami, “Catholic-Lutheran relations” by Jim Davis_

_Catholic Standard, “On 500th anniversary of the Reformation, UMD’s Catholic Student Center receives ‘95 Reese’s’, “At interfaith service, religious leaders offer prayers…” “Catholic and other faith groups voice concern over D.C.’s proposed ‘rain tax’ increase” Stories by Kelly Sankowski and Richard Szczepanowski_

**N50b: BEST REPORTING ON ECUMENICAL AND INTERFAITH ISSUES: National newspaper or wire service**

**First Place**

_The Catholic Register, “Ecumenical and Interfaith Issues” by Michael Swan, Fr. Damian MacPherson, Jim O’Leary_
This was a timely topic. The reporter’s commitment to varied and credible sources, the complementary sidebar, and the rallying-cry editorial collectively brought the topic to life.

Second Place

Catholic News Service, “Interfaith and ecumenical encounter in Egypt” by Carol Glatz, Cindy Wooden, Chaz Muth, Paul Haring

Excellent spot coverage of historic meetings. Would’ve been stronger with additional sources and some historical context.

N53a: BEST LAYOUT OF ARTICLE OR COLUMN: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less

First Place

Rhode Island Catholic, “Bishop Tobin’s Deep Roots Were Forged in the Steel City” by Laura Kilgus

Excellent layout with nice use of text, photographs, fonts and color.

Second Place

The Compass, “POW bracelet holds cherished memories for Verstegen” by Sam Lucero

Image choices and sidebar use and placement nicely balance the article and overall layout.

N53b: BEST LAYOUT OF ARTICLE OR COLUMN: Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place

The Leaven, “Human Trafficking” by Todd Habiger

This layout is superb. The use of black and white, quotes, font choice and more are excellent selections for this article.

Second Place

The Catholic Miscellany, “Holy Week: The days, the history, & the traditions” by Caroline Lindsey

This layout is very pleasing to the eye and easy to read and interpret.

Third Place
The Leaven, “Generations” Design by Todd Habiger

The layout and placement of elements allows for this piece with many parts to be more easily read and understood.

Honorable Mention

The Catholic Miscellany, “Protecting creation takes more than just recycling” by Caroline Lindsey

N53c: BEST LAYOUT OF ARTICLE OR COLUMN: Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,000 or less

First Place

Hawaii Catholic Herald, “The Local Lenten Table” by Darlene J.M. Dela Cruz

This layout’s simplicity and use of white space is well done.

Second Place

The Monitor, “Well-Being At Risk: Concern for youth triggers pushback against popular Netflix series depicting suicide” by Clara Baumann

Nice use of a single color lines/arrows to separate and draw attention to special information.

Third Place

Our Northland Diocese, “Making Catholic voices count” by Katrina Genereux

Nice layout and good use of color and boxing.

N53d: BEST LAYOUT OF ARTICLE OR COLUMN: Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation 25,001 or more

First Place

Catholic News Herald, “Living Stones” by Tim Faragher

This layout is simple and clear and enhances the article.

Second Place
Layout and choice of photographs and fact points provides reader a greater understanding of the article.

**Third Place**

*Catholic San Francisco, “Farewell Archbishop Niederauer: We thank you, and we thank God for you.” by Rick DelVecchio, Karessa McCartney*

Nice use of symmetry and bold photographs. Well done layout.

**Honorable Mention**

*The Visitor, “A new creation” by Dianne Towalski*

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**53e: BEST LAYOUT OF ARTICLE OR COLUMN: National Newspaper or Wire Service**

**First Place**

*Our Sunday Visitor, “Summer Catholic Trivia Challenge” by Michael R. Heinlein and Chelsea Alt*

Beautiful layout with nice choice of graphics while keeping the text readable and uncluttered.

**Second Place**

*Hawaii Catholic Herald, “Ohio company’s candles helping church celebrate Easter for generations” by Patrick Downes*

A simple and effective layout that is uncluttered and permits the reader to easily take in the information.

**Third Place**

*The Catholic Register, “Save our kids” by Lucy Barco*

Clean and easy to understand layout.

**Honorable Mention**

*The Catholic Register, “Canada at 150” by David Chen*

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**N54a: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Life and Dignity of the Human Person**
First Place

*St. Louis Review, “Ending the school to prison pipeline” by Joseph Kenny*

These stories of people caught in the school-to-prison pipeline vividly capture how young people are failed by systems based on punishment rather than understanding. The article details efforts by St. Louis religious and community organizations to resolve conflict and provide more support for students. The powerful examples show that people, with help, can change the course of their lives.

Second Place

*Catholic Health World, “Centura program equips Peruvian and Haitian birth attendants to save newborn lives” by Julie Minda*

The story opens with a gripping anecdote of a nursing technician who used training from the Helping Babies Breathe program to save the life of a newborn in a remote Peruvian community. The story details the challenges faced by women in the Amazon basin and their babies who need medical care. Clear and compelling, the story promotes empathy and understanding.

Third Place

*The Catholic Messenger, “Love in the time of memory loss” by Barb Arland-Fye*

These poignant stories of three men who helped their wives face memory loss before their deaths invited readers to experience the beauty of their long-term marriages. While there is sadness in each recounting, there is also great love.

Honorable Mentions

*The Florida Catholic Palm Beach, “Mothers build a new life at Mary’s Shelter” by Linda Reeves*

*Tennessee Register, “Prison ministers ‘buoy the hope’ of the incarcerated” by Theresa Laurence*

**N54b: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Call to Family, Community and Participation**

First Place

*Arlington Catholic Herald, “Love: the universal language” by Mary Stachyra Lopez*

This story profiles an American family who hosted a Colombian girl through a summer program and ultimately decided to adopt her. Through detailed scenes of the girl and her new family bonding, their care for each other becomes evident.

Second Place
Catholic Health Association, “Sisters of Charity advocates for relatives who become surrogate parents” by Julie Minda

This profile of a couple who adopted their cousin’s children helps readers understand the situation faced by millions of children in the U.S. who are being cared for by relatives. Honest and detailed, the piece explains both the joys and the challenges of becoming kinship caregivers.

Third Place

Catholic Health Association, “Reaction to discovery of bones is a case study in cultural sensitivity” by Dale Singer

The discovery of bones at the site of a Catholic hospital that had once been a cemetery brought out tensions between the hospital and the local community. By including voices of people on all sides of the conversation, most importantly the descendants of those who had been exhumed, the story gives a balanced portrayal of how the conflict was resolved.

Honorable Mentions

Catholic News Service, “Ohio community cafe responds to hunger while building a following” by Dennis Sadowski

The Catholic Register, “Family heart beats strong in Philippines” by Jean Ko Din

N54c: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Rights and Responsibilities

First Place

The Catholic Accent, “The Opioid Crisis in the Diocese of Greensburg” by Bishop Edward C. Malesic, Jerome Zufelt, Elizabeth Fazzini, Mary Seamans, Lloyd McCullough, Lori Padilla

The opioid crisis is one of the most important challenges facing parishes and communities. The Catholic Accent developed its reporting on this theme over the course of the year, including a compassionate and enlightening pastoral letter, statistics on deaths related to opioid addiction, and personal stories of families who have been affected.

Second Place

Southern Cross/Diocese of Savannah, “Individual rights and the common good” by Father Douglas K. Clark

In the context of mass shootings both recent and past—which are far more common in the U.S. than in other countries—the author considers the challenges of reconciling individual rights with the common good. Referring to the Constitution, Church catechism, and a relevant Supreme Court decision, he calls on lawmakers to develop reasonable gun laws to avert the more drastic step of repealing the Second Amendment.

Third Place

Orange County Catholic, “The Sacredness of All Life” by Cathi Douglas
As gene editing advances, the scientific practice raises moral and ethical questions about how it can be used. The story clearly describes how gene editing works and how it can be used, and it gives nuanced explanations from doctors and theologians about how it fits with Catholic teaching.

N54d: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

First Place

_St. Louis Review, “In Plain Sight” by Jennifer Brinker_

This story showcases photos from homeless residents who were given cameras to document their lives. Using their photos, staff photography and detailed interviews, the piece explores with great empathy how people become homeless and the choices they face, helping readers understand what it’s like to be in their position.

Second Place

_Florida Catholic Miami, “Going out to the peripheries” by Ana Rodriguez-Soto_

This story allows readers to walk the streets of Miami with team members of the Lazarus Project, who work with homeless residents who have severe mental illness, addiction and other problems. The story focuses on relationships, portraying the interactions between Lazarus Project members and the homeless people they encounter. It ends poignantly with one case manager telling a man she has worked with previously, “You did it before. You can do it again.”

Third Place

_The Beacon, “The Village Angels of Tanzania” by Michael Wojcik_

Through this story, readers travel to Tanzania to follow the work of a ministry serving the poor and elderly. The story explains the historical context of how the villages in the area welcomed half a million refugees from the Rwandan War and then faced difficult economic conditions after they moved on. It also describes how the classroom and sewing machines provided by the ministry will help villagers educate and support themselves.

Honorable Mentions

_The Georgia Bulletin, “Open Door Catholic Worker community closes home, but leaders will still serve” by A. Nelson_

_Catholic Sentinel, “Tiny houses are big gift to homeless women” by Katie Scott_

N54e: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Dignity and Rights of the Workers

First Place
National Catholic Reporter, “Conflicts on campus” by Menachem Wecker

This story uses detailed and rigorous reporting to investigate a contentious subject: disputes over faculty health care and unionizing at a Catholic university. The reporter is fair and precise in explaining competing claims about the course of negotiations between faculty and administrators. Persuading a variety of people to talk on the record led to the story providing a valuable range of perspectives.

Second Place

FaithLife, “Autistic students get ‘safety net’” by Mary Solberg

Students who have been diagnosed on the autism spectrum explain in this story how a university program helped them find meaningful work. The story foregrounds their experiences and clearly describes both the challenges they face and the success of the program, one of the oldest and largest autism support programs in the U.S.

Third Place

The Catholic Register, “Churches fight wage ‘fear-mongering’” by Michael Swan

This article sorts through the debate about whether to raise the minimum wage in Ontario to $15 an hour by offering evidence from economists and interviewing sources who describe how providing wages above the poverty line is supported by Catholic moral teaching. The story clearly explains the issues, draws on Church encyclicals for a broader context, and prioritizes the potential impact on workers’ lives.

N54f: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Solidarity

First Place

National Catholic Reporter, “Sisters listen to help heal as Rwanda marks 23 years since the genocide” by Melanie Lidman

More than 20 years after the genocide in Rwanda, the Benebikira Sisters describe how they work as Sister Listeners to help community members process their experiences. The depth of reporting and explanation of the complex political situation in Rwanda—the government acknowledges genocide only against Tutsis, not against Hutus—make clear the challenges the sisters face in helping people heal.

Second Place

The Criterion, “Give them a chance” by John Shaughnessy

This story demonstrates the solidarity created between two women through a prison ministry task force. Both women describe eloquently what they have gained through their friendship, and the piece also provides valuable context about what people need when they move from prison to re-entering society.

Third Place
*The Catholic Register, “Nuclear meeting is a ‘cry to humanity’” by Michael Swan*

Through interviews and historical analysis, this story explains the Church’s position on nuclear weapons as it previews a Vatican nuclear disarmament summit. While the story presents the reasons some oppose a new treaty, providing balance, it also articulates a forceful argument criticizing Canada’s failure to participate in the discussions.

**N54g: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Care for God’s Creation**

**First Place**

*Clarion Herald, “Loyola law students take Flint crisis to global tribunal” by Beth Donze*

Long after most national attention has moved on, the residents of Flint, Michigan, still suffer from contaminated drinking water. This story powerfully details the effects people have faced—including, in some cases, death—and explains that Loyola University law students have turned to an international human rights tribunal to seek an affirmation that clean and safe water is a basic human right.

**Second Place**

*The Catholic Register, “Digging for the truth” by Michael Swan*

This story skillfully examines the call by Canada’s bishops to improve oversight of Canadian mining operations in Latin America. When the mining industry counters that it is being unfairly criticized, the reporter investigates the claims and finds that, while Canadian companies are less likely than others to have problems at their mines, the systemic problems in the industry still need to be addressed. The piece makes complex issues accessible to a wide audience, getting to the heart of the matter.

**Third Place**

*National Catholic Reporter, “Students undertake Carbon Challenge” by Brian Roewe*

The details of how high school students and their teachers bring the principles of “Laudato Si” into their schools—from the “ID a Tree” challenge to taste tests of fair-trade chocolate—are told in lively anecdotes, providing a guide to other schools who want to incorporate the values of environmental justice into their classes.

**N55: BEST STORY AND PHOTO PACKAGE**

**First Place**

*St. Louis Review, “Caring for God’s ‘special people’” by Jennifer Brinker Lisa Johnston*
The story of these characters revolves around struggle and perseverance, which is evident in the reporting and photos capturing the work ethic and happiness of those living at the Blue Rose.

**Second Place**

*The Georgia Bulletin, “Parish builds warm community with Brookhaven police officers” by N. Golden, M. Alexander*

It’s not unusual to see donation and adoption programs like these, although many seem to be centered around holidays. But this program seems to be one of a kind, and that much is made clear throughout the story. The significant effort that has been put into community building from this program is highlighted in every photo.

**Third Place**

*Tennessee Register, “Totality” by Rick Musacchio, Andy Telli*

Various schools experiences with the eclipse are told fully with both written stories from the event as well as a great collection of imagery. The presentation as a whole showed the importance of the event in terms of historical value and educational value to those students involved.

**Honorable Mentions**

*Catholic Health World, “Warm socks, sturdy footwear and compassionate connection raise spirits” by Ellen Futterman*

*Catholic San Francisco, “San Francisco’s farewell to Archbishop John R. Quinn” by Rick DelVecchio, Valerie Schmalz, Tom Burke, Debra Greenblat, Karessa McCartney*
**S01a: BEST NEWS WRITING: Local/Regional Event**

**First Place**

*El Heraldo Católico, “Feligreses católicos se solidarizan con víctimas de incendio en bodega de Fruitvale” by Staff*

This story embodies a perfect combination of religion and service. It includes data, faith and a call to action. The pictures that accompany the piece are poignant and unique.

**Second Place**

*El Centinela, “Compasión al Viajar en el Tren-Aprendamos a viajar seguros” by Francisco Lara*

Extraordinary effort. A well researched piece that adds a religious tone while providing a valuable service to the community.

**Third Place**

*El Mensajero Católico, “Comunidad ayuda a Puerto Rico” by Annette Jiménez*

Good story focuses on community engagement, and with a proper call to action and feel good angles in the face of a tragedy.

**S01b: BEST NEWS WRITING: National/International Event**

**First Place**

*Nuestra Voz, “Puerto Rico: desastre y milagro” by Jorge I. Domínguez-López*

The story succeeds in discussing faith and hope in the face of incredible adversity. The final quote from the Archbishop brings everything together. This offers nice coverage of the tragedies in Puerto Rico after the devastation caused by last summer’s hurricanes. The focus on the people’s resilience brings a note of hope into a very sad story.

**Second Place**

*Nuestra Voz, “Católicos de Brooklyn ayudan en Houston” by Melissa Enaje*
A beautifully crafted story that outlines solidarity with a religious angle. This chronicle of a post-hurricane mission to Houston vividly shows how the trip served a double purpose: To help the victims of the hurricane, and to help some of those who traveled to Houston find a sense of purpose and community. Very touching.

Third Place

*Catholic New York, “El Cardenal Dolan y El Obispo DiMarzio Traen Apoyo y Oraciones de Nueva York a Puerto Rico” by John Woods*

The article provides good information about the scale of the tragedy, and also reassurance in the form of quotes from the archbishop. This translated piece offers good coverage of a post-hurricane mission to Puerto Rico, with detailed description of the damage that puts the reader right into the story.

S02: BEST FEATURE STORY

First Place

*Revista Misioneros, “UNA LUZ DE ESPERANZA” by Maria-Pía Negro Chin*

S03: BEST EDITORIAL PAGE

First Place

*Nuestra Voz, “Un Mes de la Herencia Hispana diferente; Puerto Rico: El próximo desastre; ¿Vale la pena celebrar la Navidad?” by Jorge I. Domínguez-López (Editor), Israel Ochoa (Art Director)*

Las tres muestras presentadas tienen una excelente calidad, en forma y fondo. Temas vigentes, bien abordados, balance entre eventos y opinión, encajan perfectamente en esta categoría. Se recomienda un primer lugar.

Second Place

*El Pregonero, “El sacramento del orden. Lenguaje cristiano. La cultura cura / Ministerio Ordenado. Se puede ser santo. Disernimiento vocacional / La necesidad de la unidad. La dobles no es cristiana. ¿Puede alguien sobrar?” by Cardenal Donald Wuerl, papa Francisco, Rafael Roncal*

Esta triple página editorial, "Las enseñanzas de Cristo", "Reflexiones" y "Columna del editor" constituyen un poderoso editorial. Recomendado para un primer lugar.

Third Place
El Católico de Rhode Island, “El Nuevo Año, un tiempo para honrar a la Madre de la Iglesia” by Silvio A. Cuéllar, Rick Snizek, Laura Kilgus, Ana María Delgado, Lauren Clem, Sarah Azade Perin-Monterroso


S04a: BEST REGULAR COLUMN: General Commentary

First Place

Catholic News Service, “Caminando juntos” by Hosffman Ospino

Se recomienda para un lugar de la categoría "Comentario general". Estupendo esfuerzo bilingüe que acerca a las audiencias que pueden sentirse más cómodas leyendo uno u otro idioma. Comentarios bien desarrollados que incluyen conceptos y hechos cotidianos. En particular el tema del racismo, en la actualidad, merece reconocimiento.

Second Place

Nuestra Voz, “Hasta la vista, Columbus; ¿Y ahora qué? ¿Bye, bye, Cataluña?; Cuando Manhattan no conocía el mofongo” by Enrisco

Cobijado por el manto del humor, y haciendo parte de una categoría lo suficientemente amplia, las tres muestras que Enrisco somete a concurso son excelentes. Si bien el lector no puede coincidir con sus opiniones, la lectura es amena y fácil. Encaja muy bien en la categoría. Bien escrito y fundamentado.

Third Place

Nuestra Voz, “Silencio, una película profundamente católica; Un camino a casa (Lion); The Shack (La cabaña)” by Gustavo Andújar

Excelente en todos los sentidos. Acerca al lector a un medio de comunicación accesible en el hogar: películas con una vivencia que reflejan las enseñanzas de Nuestro Señor. Cada muestra tiene la estructura y extensión adecuadas, el lenguaje es impecable. De gran interés para la comunidad.

Honorable Mentions

El Centinela, “Fieles protegidos por un Muro de Amor” by Rocío Rios

Nuestra Voz, “Jesús leía la Escritura; Formación del Pentateuco; Satanás” by Rafael Domingo
**S04b: BEST REGULAR COLUMN: Spiritual Life**

**First Place**

*Sooner Catholic - Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, “Models of Christian Life” by Pedro A. Moreno, O.P.*

This column has the right features of a column. Imppecably written, it explores a topic in a meaningful way, with an appropriate closing. Excellent content.

**Second Place**

*Sooner Catholic - Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, “Modelos De Vida Cristiana” by Pedro A. Moreno, O.P.*

Los tres trabajos presentados encajan perfectamente en esta categoría. Presentan información interesantísima sobre modelos de vida cristiana. El primer caso es relativamente conocido, pero proporciona información que no es familiar para el público en general. Los otros dos trabajos muestran modelos de vida poco conocidos, bien elaborados y que pueden tener un impacto directo en el lector. Recomendado para un primer lugar.

**Third Place**

*Nuestra Voz, “Barco, ballena y tierra... Dios es fiel; Suelta la cubeta; ¡Resucitó! ¿Y hora qué?” by David Bisono*

La finalidad de la sección del autor es clara: aplicar las enseñanzas del Evangelio a nuestra vida cotidiana. Tono afable, fácil, directo al lector. Lo más sobresaliente es la gran calidad de la redacción de las notas. Recomiendo para primer lugar.

**Honorable Mentions**

*La Voz Católica, “Más allá de la vida y la belleza; Revestida de Sol; El tiempo de Dios” by Rogelio Zelada*

*El Pregonero, “Intercedamos por los inmigrantes. Una mirada de esperanza. Mes de la herencia hispana” by Monseñor Mario Dorsonville*

**S04d: BEST REGULAR COLUMN: Family Life**

**First Place**

*El Católico de Rhode Island, “Consejos para limitar el uso de la tecnología en el hogar y fomentar la comunicación y vida familiar, El Amor es una Decisión más que un Sentimiento, El desafío más grande del V Encuentro, llegar a nuestros jóvenes” by Silvio A. Cuéllar*

Los tres trabajos presentados encajan en esta categoría. Trabajos bien realizados, incluyen tanto conceptos como ideas aplicables a la vida cotidiana, lo que propicia el interés del lector. En la segunda nota presentada, el título o encabezado
de la nota no sigue las reglas del uso de mayúsculas del español, su uso no parece ser intencional. Algunas secciones de las notas podrían pulirse un poco más. Sin embargo, el contenido lo hace recomendable para un segundo lugar.

**S06: BEST IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS**

**First Place**

*La Voz Catolica, “Lo que construyeron los huracanes” by Brenda T. Torres*

Phenomenal column, which succeeds in looking at issues like solidarity and brotherhood, while also analyzing political ramifications.

**Second Place**

*Nuestra Voz, “La política de USA hacia Cuba” by Dagoberto Valdés Hernández*

Good historical context and a look into what the future might bring.

**Third Place**

*El Pregonero, “Presos celebran mes de la hispanidad” by Andrea Acosta*

An important look at how traditions and faith are kept alive behind bars.

**S10: BEST REPORTING ON CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**First Place**

*Revista Catolica Dallas, “La mejor herencia de mi madre” by Violeta Rocha*

A beautiful story, with great quotes and a powerful message of tradition, faith and perseverance.

**Second Place**

*El Centinela, “El idioma del amor” by Rocio Rios*

The story comes to life with good photographs and quotes, particularly from the archbishop.

**Third Place**

*La Voz Catolica, “Advocaciones marianas: la herencia hispana” by Grace Piney*
Good information and a great job presenting the graphic components of the story.

**S11: BEST REPORTING ON IMMIGRATION**

**First Place**

*Revista Misioneros, “HIJO: “REZA POR MÍ.”“ by David R. Aquije*

The piece goes beyond what is expected in a report on immigration, providing ample context on local regulations and historical background. The photographs are particularly poignant.

**Second Place**

*Nuestra Voz, “Los niños de las deportaciones” by Cruz-Teresa Rosero*

A beautiful piece that describes difficulties, while also providing a message of forgiveness and reconciliation.

**Third Place**

*El Heraldo Católico, “Un soñador imagina el futuro y cómo lograrlo” by Michele Jurich*

A well researched entry that provides a look into how faith can play a role in assisting immigrants, and includes legal advice.

**S13: BEST REPORTING ON A LOCAL ISSUE**

**First Place**

*Revista Misioneros, “LOS NUEVOS VECINOS” by Giovana Soria*

The piece succeeds in explaining the program and providing a look at its outcomes, not only as they relate to faith, but also in other areas.

**Second Place**

*El Centinela, “Muralla Humana protege a feligreses víctima de ataque verbal” by Rocío Rios- Francisco Lara El Centinela*

Great reporting, and good selection of quotes to describe the totality of the event and the reaction of the community.

**Third Place**
Great collection of stories of hope and renewal, aided by carefully selected photographs,

**S14: BEST TREATMENT OF VOCATIONS TO PRIESTHOOD, RELIGIOUS LIFE OR DIACONATE**

**First Place**

*Revista Misioneros, “MISIÓN DE AMOR EN COREA” by María-Pía Negro Chin*

A beautiful story, elegantly told through quotes and pictures.

**Second Place**

*Revista Misioneros, “UNA VIDA DE SANACIÓN” by Mary Ellen Manz, M.M.*

A wonderful portrait of a life devoted to helping others. “A time to pray and afternoon naps” is a beautiful ending.

**Third Place**

*Vida Nueva, “Sacerdote ‘milenio’ en acción” by R.W. Dellinger*

This is a great feature piece, which looks carefully at the aspects of faith while also providing some insights into rites and their implications for the priest.

**S15: BEST REGULAR COLUMN BY A BISHOP OR ARCHBISHOP**

**First Place**

*Northwest Catholic, “March- Lentos... pero seguros/April- Latidos divinos/December- Navidad Hoy” by Bishop Eusebio Elizondo*

Effective titles; precise and strong. The author manages interesting topics about the human faith, the will, but no in classic ways; incorporating a musical touch to retain the lector. It’s important to keep a tangible message for the public; and call people to manage their faith with pragmatism, and make real the purest Christian ethics that Jesus gave to us. The author gave than and more. Congratulations.

**S22: BEST EDITORIAL**

**First Place**
El Pregonero, “Optimistas y pesimistas” by Rafael Roncal

This article covered pertinent political and spiritual issues with expertise and delicacy. Incorporates cites in an outstanding way, instructing the readers with musical phrases. Congrats.

Second Place

El Pregonero, “Maleta de viaje” by Rafael Roncal

The writer attacks an important issue, especially, in non educated people; the fake news and the distinction of reality and fiction. We cannot afford a society over unreal notions, and that’s the author call, to recognize the moral values and make them real, not kept in the semantics. The use of basic examples makes feel simple a complex idea, something valuable in the writing. The persuasion is great, proper of a brilliant writer. Congratulations.

Honorable Mention

El Pregonero, “Jóvenes luchadores” by Rafael Roncal

S28: BEST ESSAY REFLECTING ON FAITH FORMATION

First Place

Nuestra Voz, “¿Dónde se pide la nulidad de un matrimonio?; ¡Padre, quiero hacer un juramento!; Tras una nulidad matrimonial, ¿los hijos son “bastardos”? by Mons. Jonas Achacoso

Este concursante presentó cinco muestras de su trabajo. Los temas abordados encajan perfectamente en esta categoría. Temas de interés vigente tratados de manera suficiente y organizada. Información práctica y accesible para la audiencia. Recomiendo para primer lugar.

Honorable Mentions

Orange County Catholic en Español, “CATÓLICOS MELQUITAS; 1WITNESS; EL ROSARIO” by Jorge Luis Macías

Nuestra Voz, “Comienza el Año de las Vocaciones en la Diócesis de Brooklyn; La Oficina de Vocaciones en la Diócesis de Brooklyn; Sesiones de indagación para el diaconado” by Darío López Capera

S29a: BEST PHOTO STORY: Best photo story

First Place

El Centinela, “Viva la Virgen de Guadalupe” by Kim Nguyen
Strong use of photos. I liked the combination of adults and children featured. The pictures captured the emotions (joy, solemnness, etc.) of the various participants in this event. They are full of bright colors and are very captivating. The pictures do a great job telling the story and accompanying the printed information.

Second Place

*Revista Catolica Dallas, “El Diade la Candelaria” by Violeta Rocha, Ben Torres*

The format of the pages definitely made it a great photo story. I liked how there were two large photos on the front page, then the second page told the story in 6 small boxes of photos. I appreciated that there was very little text and that the editor let the pictures speak for themselves and really tell the story. It was interesting to use both photos of inanimate objects (dolls) and people.

S30a: BEST MULTIPLE PICTURE PACKAGE: Multiple picture package

**Honorable Mentions**

*El Mensajero Católico, “Juego comienza” by Jeff Witherow*

*El Observador, “Procesion de Viernes Santo” by Margarita Mendoza*

S31a: BEST USE OF ART OR GRAPHICS: Best Use of Art or Graphics

**First Place**

*Sophia, by Doreen Tamoosh Pierson*

The contrast of the two pictures adds dynamism to the story.

**Honorable Mentions**

*Diocese of Beaumont, “Rios de Agua Viva” by Juan Ceja*

*Northwest Catholic, “Una cuaresma íntima y discreta” by Ellen Bollard Janis Olson*

S31c: BEST USE OF ART OR GRAPHICS: Best Chart of Information Graphic

**First Place**

*El Mensajero Católico, “Comparación de los millennials con otras generaciones”*
This is a good effort to visualize the statistics in the story; the graphic is easy to read and nice to look at.

**Second Place**

*Revista Misioneros, “CATÓLICOS HISPANOS EN ESTADOS UNIDOS” by Kimberly Asencio*

A nice graphic that enlivens the page.

**S32a: BEST PHOTOGRAPH: Best photograph**

**First Place**

*Revista Misioneros, “ÁNGELES SIN SABERLO” by Sean Sprague Kimberly Asencio*

I am taken by the sheer joy captured in this beautiful photograph: The innocent happiness of the child, the proud joy of the mom. Lovely!

**Second Place**

*La Voz Catolica, “Pueri Cantores” by Marlene Quaroni*

The girl’s face is everything. A lovely photograph that brings a smile to your face.

**Third Place**

*El Mensajero Católico, “Dreamers’ (soñadores) demandan acción” by Jeff Witherow*

There is a great deal to look at in this photograph—the relationship between (we assume) the mother and child; the relationship between the two and the flag. It brings the point clearly home.

**Honorable Mentions**

*El Mensajero Católico, “Se celebra el Mes de la Herencia Hispana” by Jeff Witherow*

*Intermountain Catholic - Diocese of Salt Lake City, “¡Ordenado!” by Marie Mischel*

**S33: BEST FRONT PAGE**

**First Place**
El Mensajero Católico, “Best Front Page” by Matt Saxon

This is a great collection of front pages, distinguished by the wonderful use of photographs and a clean, consistent layout that is easy to follow and makes every issue familiar yet fresh and new. There is also very good use of photography in the promo boxes.

Second Place

Denver Catholic en español, “¿Qué significa ser cristiano?” by Simona Fava / Filippo Piccone

This is a nice looking collection of front pages. The layout is balanced, crisp and easy to navigate. The keys to the intriguing stories inside add a lot to the vitality of the pages.

Third Place

La Voz Católica, “Best front page” by Manolo Villaverde

La Voz Católica uses a nice variety of illustrations on its cover. The photo of the singing children, in particular, is a real charmer and makes the page stand out. The promos on the left column are efficient in enticing the reader to look for the stories inside.

Honorable Mentions

El Pregonero, “Retorno a clases; Identidad: idioma y fe; Tus sueños, nuestros sueños” by Javier Díaz

El Centinela, “Muralla Humana protege a feligreses víctima de ataque verbal” by Rocio Rios-Francisco Lara

**S35: BEST INTERVIEW**

First Place

Nuestra Voz, “María Scaperlanda, biógrafa del padre Rother” by Jorge I. Domínguez

The last names in the title are striking, trapping the lector’s attention since the first look. The questions of the interview could been straight to Rother’s story, but the brilliant arguments of Scarpelanda, and the outstanding coverage, makes it interesting, especially when she described her arrive to Rother’s tale when she was a History student. It’s a great story, and great coverage. Congratulations.

Second Place

Nuestra Voz, “El primer abogado ‘DREAMer’ del país” by Marietha Góngora

Third Place

Vida Nueva, “‘Si se puede’” by Maria Luisa Torres
S37: BEST COVERAGE OF VIOLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

First Place

*El Mensajero Católico,* “Best Coverage of Violence In Our Communities” by Annette Jiménez

Second Place

*Nuestra Voz,* “‘Me gustaría decirle que lo perdono’, dice la madre María Amador; Agresiones a sacerdotes y religiosas; Misa por la Solidaridad en Brooklyn tras los sucesos de Charlottesville” by Darío López Capera, Marietha Góngora

S39: BEST COVERAGE OF PRO-LIFE ISSUES

First Place

*Nuestra Voz,* “De Brooklyn a Washington: La Marcha por la Vida” by Melissa Enaje, Jorge I. Domínguez-López

Supongo que los tres artículos que se incluyen en el PDF componen la cobertura de un evento, la Marcha Pro Vida 2017. Las tres partes se complementan: nota principal de la marcha y dos testimonios de vida. Hubiera sugerido un análisis político-legislativo sobre las leyes vigentes o debates actuales, en lugar de dos testimonios, si bien los casos son diferentes. Escritura impecable, redacción fácil, amena y accesible al público.

S45a: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Life and Dignity of the Human Person

First Place

*Revista Misioneros,* “LOS RÍOS SUCIOS” by María-Pía Negro Chin

The pictures definitely help tell the story of how assisting in matters of faith can also have an impact on the well being and health of people. I thought that this article was really interesting because it showed the ways that environmental issues are also health issues and are human rights issues. A lot of times people like to think of justice work in silos and categorize initiatives into social justice or “environmental justice” etc., but I like that this piece explains to readers how something like pollution can drastically affect the wellbeing and livelihood of human beings. Additionally, I like that the author made comparisons to the Flint, Michigan, water crisis, so that readers could easily understand the statistics being presented and compare it to a situation they were familiar with, even when this particular crisis is in Peru and Bolivia.

Second Place

*Revista Misioneros,* “ATRAPADA EN LIMBO” by Giovana Soria

Great writing, wonderful quotes, and proper background. I liked that this piece had a personal touch and a focus on one specific family and their story/struggle, while also providing important socio-political context for readers. This is a very
timely issue and one that is often controversial even within the faith community. It is such an important story to tell and to help readers understand the people affected by immigration laws and practices.

**Third Place**

*El Centinela, “Muralla Humana protege a feligreses víctima de ataque verbal” by Rocío Rios*

This entry is also a winner in a different category. Very good piece.

**Honorable Mentions**

*El Pregonero, “No hay limites para soñar” by Andrea Acosta*

*El Pregonero, “Enseñan con el ejemplo” by Lidia Bellod*

**S45c: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES:Rights and Responsibilities**

**First Place**

*El Centinela, “Tengo mucho miedo, pero he decidido seguir adelante” by Francisco Lara*

The piece does a great job in explaining the intricacies of the regulation, while also providing a voice to a person who is deeply concerned about the effect political decisions could have down the road. I liked the use of quotations and first person testimonies to evoke a sense of empathy and compassion from the audience. Immigration is an incredibly important issue right now and this article did a good job covering this complicated topic and helping to make it a more personal issue. By expressing the fear that immigrants feel in this current political climate, they may be helping to change the minds of those opposed to DACA and may shed light on ways that those who stand behind immigrants can demonstrate this support. Furthermore, I liked that this article focused on a particular event on a college campus, and put the youth voice and experience at the forefront.

**Second Place**

*El Pregonero, “Ética en la política” by Carlos Ayala Ramírez*

I thought this article takes on a really interesting form by exploring the ethics of politics and different political belief systems in general. This leaves room for the audience to consider what is being presented and apply it to current events (e.g. immigration, gun control, international affairs, etc.) and see how their ethics shape their political beliefs and whether they are more of an idealist or a realist. The writing is strong overall.

**S45d: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Option for the Poor and Vulnerable**

**First Place**
This is a very compelling story, which looks at faith but also provides valuable background information on how the country is dealing with the issue at hand. I like that this article covers a wide span of time and explains how dire the situation was years ago when the HIV treatment was first introduced, and then explains how people are doing in modern day. It is nice to hear of kids who were given proper medical attention and are now thriving today. However, the article still presents statistics about how many people have been affected and does not make light of this horrible illness. Lastly, I liked the quotations from patients that they have helped. Not only do they discuss how the treatment itself has benefitted them, but they also mention how they were given the strength and support to learn to accept HIV as part of their lives.

Second Place

El Católico de Rhode Island, “Cena Navideña para indigentes y familias de bajos recursos” by Ana María Delgado

Beautiful story, brought together with a quote from His Holiness. This article was strong because it wove social justice work into the Christmas season and presented an example of how individuals and families can make a positive difference in their communities around the holidays. It is nice to learn about these community events and how people use their faith and times of celebration to help others.

S45e: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Dignity and Rights of the Workers

First Place

El Mensajero Católico, “Piden mejores condiciones para lecheros” by Annette Jiménez

Good use of data and secondary sources to discuss a thorny issue. I really liked this article because it exposed me to an issue I had never really considered before (the plight of dairy farmworkers), while also framing their labor rights and concerns in a way that would allow me to compare it to other more familiar issues/careers. I live in the New York area and I consume Chobani regularly and this is a conflict I had never ever heard about. Overall the writing/grammar and storytelling is good. There is a strong mix of anecdotes, statistics, and references to specific organizations.

Second Place

La Voz Católica, “Sin las trabajadoras del hogar, ningún otro trabajo sería posible” by Rocio Granados

Well crafted article, which looks at faith and service and comes alive with quotes.

Third Place

El Centinela, “¿Es un patrón?” by Francisco Lara
Great effort that looks at a component of the economy that is often forgotten and misunderstood. This was an interesting article and I learned information about VOZ that I did not know before. I liked that the piece presented a glimpse into the lifestyle of some of these laborers (e.g. not staying in one place for a long time) and intentionally seeking out places to live/work where there is a low(er) level of racism and discrimination.

Honorable Mention

*El Pregonero,* “Trabajadoras domésticas” by Andrea Acosta

**S45f: BEST REPORTING OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES: Solidarity**

First Place

*El Centinela,* “Calor intenso y sed en los habitantes de la calle” by Rocío Rios

A triumphant story that shows the best humanity has to offer. It combines elements of solidarity and faith, with book background information. I like that this article showcases the social justice work of a particular group of people in Portland, while also presenting readers with ideas on how they can help themselves. Some justice initiatives are complicated in nature, but passing out water to thirsty/dehydrated people in your community is a simple way to make a big difference.

Second Place

*Revista Misioneros,* “JUGANDO POR LA PAZ” by Larry Parr, MKLM

A great look at how faith and sport can both play a role in healing people and communities. I was really drawn to this article because of the way it emphasizes the connection between social justice and sportsmanship. Many people think that the only ways to promote peace are through overtly political actions such as lobbying or participating in a march, but often there are ways to integrate social justice work into fun and exciting pastimes (in this case, sports). The Playing for Peace model allows for multi-generational collaboration to reduce violence.

Third Place

*El Pregonero,* “Solidaridad después de las llamas” by Miguel Vivanco

This article is well written and I enjoyed reading the testimonials. It was interesting to read about the different local and national organizations who became involved in the relief effort after the tragedy. I wish that the article was more based on the general idea of social justice work relating to disaster relief and less of an announcement about the one specific fire.

**S46: BEST STORY AND PHOTO PACKAGE**

First Place
Vida Nueva, “‘Ciudad de los Santos’” by Clara Fox and Victor Alemán

This is a solidly written news story, with very nice quotes, that is richly brought to life by expressive and technically accomplished photographs. The photos are distinguished by their nice use of light and perspective.

Second Place

Revista Misioneros, “UN REFUGIO PARA FOMENTAR LA PAZ MUNDIAL” by Kimberly Asencio Fred Goddard

The topic of this story—the work of peace builders in the Philippines—is important and consequential. The translated story is well illustrated, with a lovely, moody lead photograph and several photos that are used efficiently in a clean, easy-to-read layout.

Third Place

La Voz Catolica, “La modista de la Virgen” by Grace Piney

This is an engaging story about a seamstress who makes the capes for the Virgin of Charity. The reader gets a good sense of the woman’s personality, and the photos offer details that cannot be fully explained in words.

S47: BEST REPORTING ON THE V ENCUENTRO

First Place

El Católico de Rhode Island, “Líderes nacionales y regionales se reúnen para planear V Encuentro Nacional, Sábado 28 de Octubre Misa Hispana cerrará el Encuentro Diocesano en la Catedral, Jóvenes Católicos hablan desde el Corazón en Evento Diocesano del V Encuentro, Fotos.” by Silvio A. Cuéllar, Rick Snizek, Ana María Delgado,

Thoroughly researched coverage that incorporates news and opinion. I like that these articles provide information on both the local and national level regarding V Encuentro. Additionally, I really enjoyed reading about the Youth participants speaking from the heart. These entries gave a clear picture of the work that goes into planning the national event as well as the spiritual and emotional benefits of the program itself for its participants.

Second Place

Revista Catolica Dallas, “V Encuentro” by Pia Septien

Superior coverage that relies on good information, photographs and scripture. This article stands out for the way that it breaks down the process and explains to readers exactly what it entails. I liked the organization of the articles and the pie chart that helps readers to understand how time consuming the process is and how much work goes into it. I also enjoyed the background given on what people get out of the process and experience.

Third Place
El Mensajero Católico, “Best Reporting on the V Encuentro” by Annette Jiménez

These articles do a great job in explaining the nature and importance of the "Encuentro." The information is carefully presented. I liked the diversity in the topics of these 3 articles, even though they all revolve around the same theme. The article about the inmates involved in the program and how they benefitted from it is really unique and interesting. The writing is strong and there is ample detail given.

Honorable Mentions

El Pregonero, “Camino al V encuentro” by Miguel Vivanco

El Heraldo Católico, “Una oportunidad ineludible en la vida de la Iglesia Católica” by Staff

S48: BEST SPORTS REPORTING

First Place

La Voz Católica, “Evangelizar con un balón de voleibol” by Daniel Shoer Roth

The quotes from participants help tell the story, which discusses sports, religion and the spirit of competition.

Second Place

Nuestra Voz, “Sacerdotes colombianos que predicen con el fútbol” by Darío López Capera

Good informational story about the team.

S49: BEST REPORTING ON LATIN AMERICA

First Place

Revista Misioneros, “LOS RÍOS SUCIOS” by María-Pía Negro Chin

This is a beautifully researched and written piece about a critical environmental situation in Perú. From what I can see online, it is part of a two-part package on dirty water, which makes the work even more impressive. Top notch and a pleasure to read.

Second Place

La Voz Católica, “El Vicepresidente de EE.UU. en iglesia de El Doral” by Ana Rodriguez-Soto
This is a solid story about a meeting that took place in Miami between Vice President Pence and the Venezuelan members of a local parish. It is well reported, with excellent use of quotes, and written fluidly and with authorities. The pictures enhance the presentation.

**Third Place**

*Nuestra Voz, “Venezuela en penumbras; Venezuela: una iglesia que se crece en la crisis; Venezuela en la “Hora 0”” by Macky Arenas*

This is a nice collection of opinion articles, heartfelt and full of pain.