**Pro-Life Essay - 2019**

**Writing Prompt: On Family as Sanctuary of Life**

In the famous encyclical *Evangelium Vitae* (“The Gospel of Life”), Pope St. John Paul II expressed his hope that society would strengthen its commitment to support the family, so that “even amid so many difficulties and serious threats, the family will always remain, in accordance with God’s plan, the ‘sanctuary of life.’” (*EV*, n. 6.)

The word “sanctuary” means a holy place, or a place of refuge and protection.

How may the family be a sanctuary of life, and why did the Holy Father stress that the family must be such a sanctuary?

**Rules**: All essays must be:

1. Typed and proofread.
2. 300 - 400 words.
3. Double-spaced on one side of paper
4. 12-point font – Times New Roman

**Your essay will be graded by these criteria:**

1. Understanding of this particular pro-life message

2. Clarity and persuasiveness in communicating the message

3. Creativity and originality

4. Grammar, spelling, and organization

**Any plagiarism completely disqualifies your essay**; all quotations and usage of facts or exact ideas must be cited and a bibliography must be included.

**Due Date**: Rough Draft, Thursday, February 21

Final Draft, Thursday, February 28