

Knights Of St Columbanus Public Speaking Competition 2018 - 2019

Topics for public speaking competition, arranged by theme.

Social Media and the Gospel

1. "Preventing and identifying the way disinformation works also calls for a profound and careful process of discernment". *Pope Francis speaking about Fake News*
2. "The Internet is a gift from God, but it is also a great responsibility". *Pope Francis*
3. Communicating means sharing, and sharing demands listening and acceptance. Listening is much more than simply hearing.

Life and Family Issues

4. Families under pressure: How can churches respond?"
5. "Go and make disciples. Go beyond the confines of what is humanly possible and create a world of brothers and sisters!" *Pope Francis 22 July 2013*
6. "Work gives us the ability to maintain ourselves, our family, to contribute to the growth of our nation". *Pope Francis May 2013*

Living the Christian life

7. "If in so many parts of the world there are children who have nothing to eat, that's not news. It seems normal. It cannot be this way". *Pope Francis speaking at Audience June 2013*
8. "Those responsible for the violence towards civilians, including peaceful protesters, must be brought swiftly to justice". *Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby*
9. "Abolishing the death penalty worldwide would reflect the brave and hope-filled belief that crime can be dealt with without capital punishment and that a criminal should be given the chance to reform". *Archbishop Paul Gallagher*
10. "Don't be observers, but immerse yourself in the reality of life, as Jesus did". *Pope Francis to young people*

Justice, Peace, Integrity of Creation

11. There is a growing sense of the need for a renewed and sound relationship between humanity and creation. *Laudato Si 118*
12. "The quality of a civilization, depends on how it treats the weak, the indigent, the elderly, the persons with disability, and by the place it gives them in community life." *Archbishop Paul Gallagher at UN*

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13. "Access to safe drinkable water is a basic and universal human right, since it is essential to human survival." *Pope Francis on 4th World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*
14. "I appeal to everyone throughout the world not to forget this dignity which is ours. No one has the right to take it from us." *Pope Francis*

Young Christians

15. "There is more that unites us than that which divides us. Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." *Patriarch Bartholomew speaking at Conference on peace in Istanbul*
16. How to involve teenagers in the life of the Church
17. "While the earnings of a minority are growing exponentially, so too is the gap separating the majority from the prosperity enjoyed by those happy few." *Pope Francis*
18. "Hope challenges us, moves us and shatters that conformism which says, 'it's always been done like this'. Hope asks us to get up and look directly into the eyes of young people and see their situations." *Pope Francis, Homily at opening of the Synod on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment , October 3rd 2018.*
19. "Young people today can be drawn to the faith and supported in their faith by music, film and the arts in general".