



Venerable Fr. Augustus Tolton 2025 Writing Contest

The Tolton Ambassadors – Chicago invites you to participate in the 2025 Venerable Augustus Tolton Writing Contest! This year you have a choice of how to showcase your talents. There are two categories to choose from. You can demonstrate your talents and creativity by submitting an Essay that is 500-1500 words **OR** by expressing yourself through Poetry. Poetic entries should be 300 – 1000 words. **The contest is for students in grades 5 through 8 who attend Catholic Schools or who are active members in a Catholic church.** Parent permission is required to participate.

Essays or Poems should address the following:

Fr. Tolton led a truly heroic and inspirational life. Throughout his life's journey he held fast to the virtues of courage, inclusiveness, forgiveness, perseverance, gratitude, faithfulness, diligence, and resilience. Choosing at least two of Fr. Tolton's virtues tell us why his life is relevant to us today and why it is necessary to share his story with all. Can modeling your life after Fr. Tolton bring you closer to God and make you a better person? If so, include that in your writing submission.

Submissions will be judged on *Originality, Connection to Theme, Paragraph Construction, Organization and Mechanics*

All entries must be submitted by an Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic school faculty member or a Catholic Church administrator to:

toltonambassador.chicago@gmail.com

Essays must be submitted by 11:59 pm Sunday April 6, 2025.

Winners will be announced Monday April 21, 2025. There will be three winners in each category.

Winners in each category will receive a cash prize; 1st place \$150, 2nd place \$100, 3rd place \$50

The prizes will be awarded Saturday May 3, 2025, during the Tolton Writing Contest Luncheon. Tickets are free for contest winners and a parent or guardian Tickets are \$30 or \$15 for those 12 and under.