



# 2019 SENIOR ESSAYS

- Jessica Alhanouch **Justice, Sin, and Forgiveness in *The Brothers Karamazov* and the American Justice System**  
What is justice really? Why is justice so hard to figure out?
- Dartanyan Edmonds **The Gift of the Beatific Vision: A Thomist View of Nature and Grace**  
What is the relationship between nature and grace like? How should we understand this relationship with respect to man's last end, which is the vision of God?
- Matthew Faller **A String of Minor Graces**  
What was my path of intellectual transformation through college—in poemetic memory?
- Katherine Hayes **Learning to Help: Theological Perspectives of Suffering and Humanitarian Aid**  
How should theological perspectives of suffering inform our humanitarian responses to suffering?
- Katherine Hodskins **The Human Person and the *Metaxu*: On the Meaning of “Home” in the Mobile, Modern World**  
In an age of mobility, how does the proposed nature of man as a being “in the between” interact with the meaning of “home”?
- Ted Holleran **The Decline, Death, and Dragging Behind the Chariot of the University**  
What is the University and what ought it be? What would it mean for the University to achieve its ultimate goal most effectively?
- Evan Jenkins **The Heart and the Head: The Quintessential Nature of the Emergency Medical and Critical Care Provider**  
What does it mean to be human and practice emergency medicine/critical care? How does one best protect one's humanity when confronted with the challenges of emergency medicine?
- Emily LaPorte **Experience and Experiential Knowledge for Understanding a Theological World**  
How does our knowledge of the world shape our perceptions of and experiences in our world? How can these two kinds of knowledge together help us to understand hard life realities?
- Jonathan Lindley **Grace in Death**  
Is there such a thing as a 'good death'? What role does grace play in death and can it enhance the goodness of dying?
- Abigail Morehouse **Catholic Femininity and the Beloved: Why We Deserve More than Feminism**  
Why is the Catholic church's understanding of femininity still relevant (and now more vital than ever) in understanding who we are as women? Why does feminism fall short?
- Colleen O'Brien **Bringing Mindfulness to Work to Create an Enjoyable Experience Similar to That Found in Leisure**  
What qualities are found in the type of work that is most conducive to a good human life? Can we alter our attitude toward work so as to make any type of work enjoyable and similar to leisure activities?
- Emma Poley **Fantasy and Performance: A Study of Otherworldly Literature and the Sub-Creative Art**  
What is the human good of otherworldly literature? If you could get the same effect out of “realistic” literature, why write fantasy? Who, or what, on earth is a sub-creator?
- Jeremy Puntel **The Restless Heart of Hip Hop**  
How can Kendrick Lamar's contribution to the musical and literary form of hip hop be characterized? How does that contribution match up with Augustinian insights into confession, psychology, and politics?
- Sean Rodgers **Abusive Ideology and Faith: Walking the Ruins of Close-mindedness and Looking Beyond**  
When it comes down to it, is there a difference between ideology and faith? If so, how does that difference pan out at the level of the personal encounter?
- Keri Salanik **A Finite Encounter with the Infinite: The Story of Conversion**  
How does God, who is beyond all comprehension, communicate to humans as finite beings in a finite world and how should one respond to the call?
- Lila Samuelson **The Shaping of You: An Introspective Look at Grief and the Good Life**  
How is grief integral to the human experience?
- Margaret Shield **Living Liturgically: A Look at Living In-Between the Mundane and the Extraordinary**  
What is the relationship between the ordinary tedium of daily life and the extraordinary?
- Matthew Southerton **The Unholy Trinity: On the Dangerous Presence of Moralistic Therapeutic Deism in Christian Culture**  
What is moralistic therapeutic deism, why is it insufficient as form of Christianity, and how can we overcome it?
- Nicole Stefan **Relationships: The Power of Human Connection to Overcome Personal Struggle**  
What role do relationships play in our life path?
- MaryKate Winter **“God Meets Us Where We Are”: Understanding Home as Sacred Space**  
How can Belden Lane's axioms of sacred space inform an account of home that maintains the significance of place while allowing for multiple experiences of home?
- James Wroblewski **“Why do that to yourself?” My Experience of (Happily) Living My Life as a Young, Gay, Catholic**  
Why is it so remarkable to so many in today's society for a young gay man to willingly embrace his Catholic faith?