



**Fr Fidelis Council
St. Joseph's # 12798
301 West 17th Street
San Angelo, TX 76903**

The Knights of Columbus Fr. Fidelis Council #12798 will be awarding two tuition assistance scholarships to qualifying Catholic students for the 2026-2027 academic year. The scholarships are to be awarded for one academic year only. There are academic and service requirements for awarding the scholarships.

The Fr. Fidelis Council Scholarship: A scholarship of up to \$500 will be awarded to one applicant graduating from an accredited high school. This scholarship is designed to assist any Catholic student in the San Angelo area. Affiliation with St. Joseph's is not required. Funds will be applied toward college, university or trade school; tuition will be paid directly to that institution of higher learning.

The Garland Freeze, Sr. Memorial Scholarship (see page 3): A scholarship of up to \$500 will be awarded to one applicant graduating from an accredited high school. This scholarship is designed to assist graduates from the St. Joseph Catholic Church family. Funds will be applied toward college, university or trade school tuition; will be paid directly to that institution of higher learning.

The Gilbert Joseph Duran Memorial Scholarship: A scholarship of up to \$1000 will be awarded to one Catholic applicant graduating from Lake View High School. If there is a lack of applicants, this scholarship will be awarded to an applicant in the San Angelo Area, at the discretion of the committee. Affiliation with St. Joseph's is not required. Funds will be applied toward college, university or trade school tuition; will be paid directly to that institution of higher learning.

The Maximo and Sarah Duran Scholarship: A scholarship of up to \$1000 will be awarded to one Catholic applicant graduating from Lake View High School. If there is a lack of applicants, this scholarship will be awarded to an applicant in the San Angelo Area, at the discretion of the committee. Affiliation with St. Joseph's is not required. Funds will be applied toward college, university or trade school tuition; will be paid directly to that institution of higher learning.

*** Please note that once the scholarship funds have been exhausted, no refunds will be issued for the school bill. Any remaining balance will be applied to the next semester.**

Criteria:

Scholarships will be awarded to students based on the following:

- Academic Excellence – Must be in good standing with their most recent school and have a grade point average of 80 (B) or higher (College GPA $\geq$ 3.0).
- Character/Traits – Must demonstrate admirable qualities that should be included in the required documents and essay needed below (examples: dependability, kindness, empathy, courage, integrity, leadership, etc.). Also let us know if you will be the first in your family to attend college or a university.
- Punctuality – Application and required documents must be submitted by the deadline listed below.

Required Documents:

- Scholarship Application - Students from the St. Joseph's Catholic Church family qualify for either scholarship but those students from another parish qualify for the Fr. Fidelis Council Scholarship only, unless there is a lack of applicants from the St. Joseph's parish family.
- A one-page essay (typed) - How has your faith evolved over the years? Describe significant moments or experiences that have shaped your beliefs.
- A letter of recommendation from EACH:
 1. A teacher or administrator (NOT a family member) of the high school you graduated from, on stationery with the proper school letterhead, and
 2. A layperson or parishioner (NOT a family member) from your church that has worked with you in an area of leadership, service, stewardship, or faith development.
- Proof of being a practicing Catholic (preferably a letter from a priest/deacon or you can submit a Certification of Confirmation).
- A list of church, school, and/or community services/stewardship activities and a brief explanation of those activities, if you deem it necessary.
- **MOST RECENT TRANSCRIPT** from the high school you are attending from including grades, any disciplinary actions (example: in school or out of school suspension), and attendance. This documentation must have a **RAISED SEAL** and the **SIGNATURE OF AN APPROPRIATE SCHOOL OFFICIAL**.
- **Scholarship will only be awarded pending confirmation of enrollment to a college/university.**

Deadline:

Applications and required documents for the scholarship 2026-2027 academic year must be received via mail or dropped off at the church office, no later than 5:00 pm on February 16, 2026. NO EXCEPTIONS. Students will be notified by March 6, 2026, regarding the status of their application.

Address

All aforementioned items (the application, one-page essay and other required documents) can be sent to the address below:

**Knights of Columbus
Fr Fidelis Council St. Joseph's 12798
Scholarship Applications
301 West 17th Street
San Angelo, TX 76903**

The Garland Freeze, Sr. Memorial Scholarship: With the permission of the Freeze family, we have renamed this scholarship in order to honor a late parishioner of the St. Joseph's Catholic Church family and a Brother Knight of Council #12798 who epitomized service. In addition to having a second career in the United States Postal Service, he first served his country by having an accomplished military career, serving in both the United States Air Force and Army.

However, his service did not end there as community service became a cornerstone of his life. He was a mentor in the Big Brother/Big Sister Program at Lakeview High School. He delivered Meals for the Elderly. He served on various committees and boards including the Convention & Visitor Bureau, Habitat for Humanity, West Texas Workforce Solutions, San Angelo Community and the SAISD 2008 Bond Oversight. He was a member of the Boys & Girls Club, American Legion Post 57, Shannon Volunteers and the City of San Angelo Development Corporation. He also served as President of the local NAACP chapter for 10 years and received the Torchbearer Award at the NAACP Texas State Conference.



Scholarship Application Academic Year 2026-2027

Knights of Columbus

Fr. Fidelis Council St. Joseph's #12798

Garland Freeze, Sr. Memorial Scholarship: eligible to all upcoming high school graduates of the St. Joseph's Catholic Church family unless there is a lack of parish member applicants (to be determined by the Scholarship Committee).

Fr. Fidelis Council Scholarship: eligible to all upcoming high school graduates of the St. Joseph's Catholic Church family and other Catholic parishes in the San Angelo area.

The Gilbert Joseph Duran Memorial Scholarship: eligible to upcoming high school graduates of Lake View High School, unless there is a lack of applicants.

The Maximo and Sarah Duran Scholarship: eligible to upcoming high school graduates of Lake View High School, unless there is a lack of applicants.

Applicant's Printed Name: _____

Applicant's Mailing Address:

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Applicant's Home Phone: _____

Applicant's Email Address: _____

Applicant's Home Catholic Parish: _____

I would like to be considered for a Knights of Columbus Scholarship to (Name of College or University):

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Applicant's Parent/Guardian Printed Name:

Applicant's Parent/Guardian Signature:

Applicant's Parent/Guardian Mailing Address (if different):

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Applicant's Parent/Guardian Home Phone (if different):

Applicant's Parent/Guardian Email Address (if different):

Check List

- One-page Essay
- Proof of being Catholic
- TWO Letters of Recommendation (at least)
- List of Church/Community Service Activities
- **MOST RECENT Transcript** with GPA
- **Proof of Enrollment (Before release of funds)**

All Documentation must be submitted at the same time. Failure to submit all required elements at the same time will not help your chances of being awarded a scholarship. If you have any questions about the scholarship or difficulties in putting together your required documents, you can contact the Knights below:

Lee Castro at **325-650-5989** [call or text] or

Colby Castro at **325-245-9209** or **colbyrcastro01@yahoo.com**

 Fr Fidelis Council scholarship app 2026-2027[90]