

Deadline: Entries must be postmarked not later than Wednesday 9 September. All entries become the property of **Misyon** and cannot be returned.

Winners will be notified in November. The Top Three essays will be published in the January-February 2010 issue of **Misyon**. The others will appear on www.misyononline.com

1st Place – P10,000.00

2nd Place – P5,000.00

3rd Place – P3,000.00

10 Consolation Prizes of P2,000.00 each.

Mail to: MISYON Student Essay Contest 2009
PO Box 588
6100 BACOLOD CITY

Or send by courier to:

San Columbano
#21 Camia-Jasmin Roads
Espinosa Village, BACOLOD CITY
Tel No.: 034-4460531

For more information on the essay contest, you may email Father Seán Coyle at editor@misyononline.com

Your essay should include the following:

1. Tell an experience of your own or of other young people you know which can prove that the youth can be active evangelizers of 'this digital continent'.
2. Taking advantage of the technological advances, in what way can you reach out to the youth of other cultures?
3. What are the hindrances that you will encounter as you take up this challenge of the Pope? What do you think are the advantages and the disadvantages that 'this digital continent' offers?
4. How can you become a responsible evangelizer of this generation? What impact can you make on 'this digital continent'?

Rules: All high school students may join but only one entry per student.

Length: 500-750 words. Pages should be typed and double-spaced or neatly handwritten in ink and stapled – **no binders or folders, please.**

The entry form should be attached to the essay. Also, you may email your entry as an attachment with the scanned accomplished form with signature to editor@misyononline.com. (Entry forms can be downloaded from www.misyononline.com or printed from the CD version. Photo-copied forms may be used.)

The student's name and that of the school must **not** appear on the essay.

Entries that do not have complete information will be disqualified.

MISYON

STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST 2009

Theme

***EVANGELIZING THIS
'DIGITAL CONTINENT'***

'New Technologies, New Relationship. Promoting Culture of Respect, Dialogue and Friendship' is the theme of this year's World Day of Communications, observed on Pentecost Sunday, 24 May.



Misyon moved fully into the digital age with the May-June 2008 issue. For a number of years we had been making most of the content of each issue available online but the printed issue was our main focus and product.

Now we are focusing on the production of our online issue and two CD versions every two months. We have been discovering the potential of each and the different approaches necessary. We are aware that not everyone has access to the internet but when **Misyon** was first published in 1988 nobody did. Very few had computers and the cell-phone was unheard of.

The Digital Generation

In his message, Pope Benedict writes: *The new digital technologies are, indeed, bringing about fundamental shifts in patterns of communication and human relationships. These changes are particularly evident among those young people who have grown up with the new technologies and are at home in a digital world that often seems quite foreign to those of us who, as adults, have had to learn to understand and appreciate the opportunities it has to offer for communications. In this year's message, I am conscious of those who constitute the so-called digital generation and I would like to share with them, in particular, some ideas concerning the extraordinary potential of the new technologies, if they are used to promote human understanding and solidarity. These technologies are truly a gift to humanity and we must endeavor to ensure that the benefits they offer are put at the service of all human individuals and communities, especially those who are most disadvantaged and vulnerable.*

The Digital Continent

Jesus gave the Church the mission to 'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations' (Mt 28:19). Those nations include what Pope Benedict calls 'this "digital continent"'. He has a direct challenge for young Catholics: *It falls, in particular, to young people, who have an almost spontaneous affinity for the new means of communication, to take on the responsibility for the evangelization of this 'digital continent'. Be sure to announce the Gospel to your contemporaries with enthusiasm. You know their fears and their hopes, their aspirations and their disappointments: the greatest gift you can give to them is to share with them the 'Good News' of a God who became man, who suffered, died and rose again to save all people. Human hearts are yearning for a world where love endures, where gifts are shared, where unity is built, where freedom finds meaning in truth, and where identity is found in respectful communion. Our faith can respond to these expectations: may you become its heralds! The Pope accompanies you with his prayers and his blessing.*

You can read the full message of Pope Benedict XVI for the 43rd World Day of Communications at <http://www.misyononline.com/essay09-popemessage>



MISYON STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST 2009 ENTRY FORM

Theme: *Evangelizing this 'Digital Continent'*

Name: _____

Year & Section: _____

Name of School: _____

School Address: _____

Street

City

ZIP

School Tel No.: (____) _____

Noted by:

Principal
(signature over printed name)

or

Christian Living Teacher []
or Homeroom Teacher []
(signature over printed name)
(Please check whichever applies.)

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