

The Good Oil 2021 Writers' Award Guidelines for Entrants

Entries are invited for **The Good Oil 2021 Writers' Award**, an initiative of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. Entry is free and open to emerging and published writers.

The Good Oil is the monthly e-journal of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan. Keeping its readers informed of the life and mission of the Sisters, *The Good Oil* publishes news, feature and opinion articles, and reflective content which aims to nourish the spirit, stimulate thinking, promote social justice and encourage reflection and dialogue about issues of the day from a Christian, Catholic, Good Samaritan perspective. Current and past editions of *The Good Oil* can be viewed at www.goodsams.org.au

The theme for this year's award is **Inclusivity**.

Inclusivity is embodied in the Parable of the Good Samaritan (*Lk 10:25-37*)

The wisdom of the parable lies in recognising the needs of the 'other' and reaching out with compassion and love to whoever they may be, and in whatever circumstance prevails. Our compassion and love cannot be limited to those we know and like. True compassion extends the warmth of love to the 'other' – the one whose circumstances, race, religion, beliefs and values are so different from our own.

(www.goodsams.org.au)

Guidelines for entrants

1. Entry is free.
2. Entrants are invited to submit a single piece of writing adopting one of the following styles:
 - a) Reflection – creative writing or first person reflective writing
 - b) Opinion – first person personal opinion
 - c) Profile – profile of a person based on an interview and research
 - d) News feature – issues-based article written in journalistic style
3. In their chosen writing style, entrants are asked to submit a piece of writing on the theme **Inclusivity**.
4. Length: 800 - 1200 words for articles. This word count does not apply to poems.
5. Entries open on **Tuesday May 18, 2021** and close at **midnight AEST on Sunday August 22, 2021**.
6. Entrants are strongly encouraged to look at past editions of *The Good Oil*, the e-journal of the Good Samaritan Sisters (www.goodsams.org.au) to gain an understanding of the type and style of articles published.
7. All submissions must be the entrant's original, unpublished work, written in English. Any entry found to be plagiarised will be disqualified.
8. Only individual submissions will be accepted (i.e. no group submissions).
9. Entry is open to residents of Australia, Kiribati, the Philippines and Japan – countries where the Sisters of the Good Samaritan live and minister.

10. Entrants may submit more than one piece of writing, to a maximum of three (3) pieces. Each entry must be submitted separately with a new entry form.
11. All entrants will receive an email confirming receipt of their entry.
12. Entries will not be returned. Entrants are advised to keep a copy of their entry.
13. By submitting their entry, entrants confirm that they are the author of the submitted work, that it has not been published or submitted in any other awards or competitions, and that they have read and agreed to **The Good Oil 2021 Writers' Award** guidelines.
14. By submitting their entry, entrants give the Sisters of the Good Samaritan the right to decide to publish their article, along with their name, biographical details and their photo in *The Good Oil*, on the website of the Good Samaritan Sisters (www.goodsams.org.au), via Twitter and Facebook.
15. Prize-winning entries will be announced in *The Good Oil*, on the website of the Good Samaritan Sisters (www.goodsams.org.au) and via Twitter and Facebook on Tuesday November 16, 2021. Winning entrants will also be contacted via email.
16. Prize-winning entries will be published in future editions of *The Good Oil*.
17. A judging panel will award first, second and third place. The prize for the winning entry will be \$600; second \$400; third \$200.
18. The judges will base their decision on the entries which best explore the theme **Inclusivity** in their chosen writing style. In particular, the judges will be looking for writing that is topical, engaging, accessible, creative, original, and well written.
19. The decision of the judging panel is final; no correspondence will be entered into by *The Good Oil* and the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, or any other party involved in the conduct of **The Good Oil 2021 Writers' Award**.
20. **The Good Oil 2021 Writers' Award** will be made only if the judges consider the prize-winning entries are of sufficient quality.

How to submit your entry

Please email entries to thegoodoil@goodsams.org.au Include the subject line **The Good Oil 2021 Writers' Award**. If you don't use this subject line your application might be missed.

In the email message, please include your name, daytime phone number, postal address and a short biography (limit 50 words).

Entries should be submitted as separate attachments in a Word document in 12 point Calibri font, double spacing. Number all pages. Do NOT insert images into the article.

All quotes and sources should be footnoted, including hyperlinks where possible.

As entries will be judged anonymously, do NOT include any identifying information in the text of the article, document header or footer.

Entrants may submit more than one piece of writing, to a maximum of three (3) pieces. Each entry must be submitted separately with a new entry form.

Entries close at midnight AEST on Sunday August 22, 2021.

If you have any questions about these guidelines, please send an email to:
thegoodoil@goodsams.org.au