

Quote from Sister Jamie T. Phelps, O.P., Ph.D.:
*“God’s liberating love is always at work in our history—
calling us to resist, to rise, and to rejoice.”*

2026 Endowed Scholarship Essay Prompt
(500–700 words)

Students in the Institute for Black Catholic Studies are called to spiritual, academic, emotional, and cultural formation to grow in Christian discipleship. How will you implement and live out this call —

to resist injustice,
to rise in dignity and leadership, and
to rejoice in God’s liberating love—
as a minister, member of the African American community and Church?

The essay should reflect your lived experience, your vocational journey, and the ways in which IBCS formation would prepare you to embody hope, liberation, and service in today’s world.