

## **2023 Cardinal Kung A Defender of Faith Scholarship**

We are pleased to announce the recipients of the 1st Annual Cardinal Kung Defender of the Faith Scholarship Awards. These awards are made:

- In recognition of these students' activities to uphold, spread, and defend the Catholic Faith
- In the belief that their education at a Newman College of their choices will strengthen their wills and their intellects in their service of the Triune God and His Church
- In remembrance of the life and work of Ignatius Cardinal Kung Pin-Mei and the salutary effects of his work among the clergy and young adults of his flock, for whom he provided spiritual leadership prior to and during their religious persecution by the Communist government of China.

Cardinal Kung's lifetime of service to the Catholic Church in China, which includes his work as a Catholic educator and school administrator in the 1930s and 1940s and especially his words and actions as Bishop of Shanghai during the early 1950s, provided consistently strong Catholic leadership that galvanized Catholic activities, including organized catechesis, Eucharistic Adoration, perpetual Rosaries and public processions. Those activities, often led by university students and conducted amidst the persecution, arrests, and martyrdom of members of his flock, caused a foreign visitor to describe the Catholics as "magnificent" and to say that, under Communism, "the Catholics are the one bright spot left in Shanghai."

The Defender of the Faith Scholarship recipients for the Year of Our Lord 2023 are:

### **Samuel Montone - \$2,000**

Samuel is active in Catholic education in a variety of ways, all demonstrating a capacity for practical creativity and leadership. Samuel intends to matriculate at one of the following Newman Colleges: Ave Maria University, Christendom College, or Wyoming Catholic College.

### **Faustina Wodzinski - \$1,000**

Faustina demonstrates a mature and integrated way of living her faith, first by nourishing it in her prayer life and numerous parish activities, and then by allowing faith and grace to inform her interactions with the people that she encounters in her daily life. Faustina will be attending Christendom College.

### **Teagan Byrne - \$1,000**

Teagan is very active in her parish, in catechesis and as a leader in her parish's Youth Group. Her essay shows a strong love of sharing the truth of Christ with others. Teagan plans to attend Christendom College this coming Fall.