**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Malden Catholic High School Celebrates 86th Commencement**

**Malden, MA** (June 1, 2021) – On May 15, Malden Catholic High School celebrated the 86th Commencement ceremony for the Class of 2021. Following all guidelines established by the state and national health organizations, Malden Catholic hosted a live graduation on the Brother Gilbert Stadium with over 700 graduates, family members, faculty and staff in attendance.

Of the 108 Malden Catholic graduates, 98 families were present and socially distanced on the football field. The ceremony started with a prayer by MC’s Director of Mission Integration, Brother Thomas Puccio, and was followed by a presentation by MC salutatorian, Aaron Babu of Wilmington. Babu’s address commented on the great changes that had taken place at the school and in the world overall and how the graduating Class of 2021 is now better prepared for a dynamic future based on the education received at Malden Catholic during the transitions.

After the conferral of diplomas by Headmaster John Thornburg, Rose Maria Redman and Boys Division Head, Robert Bucchino ’71, and Assistant Principal of Student Life, James Grocki, the Malden Catholic valedictorian, Luke Stockless of Malden, presented a speech regarding the tremendous value of the MC brotherhood and spirit of connection he experienced over the past four years. According to Lawless, the entire community united as one with grit and compassion and helped lift up the Class of 2021, especially during the pandemic year.

The following awards were also presented to the following 2021 graduates: Xaverian Award: *Benjamin Foy*, Gerard F. Doherty, 1946, Loyalty and Friendship Award: *Ryan Constantino and Thomas Curran,* Loyalty and Service Award: *Aaron Babu and Mario Cavuoto*, Spirit Award: *Brady Sullivan*, Theology Department Award: *Thomas Curran*, English Department Award: *Benjamin Foy*, World Language Department Award - Spanish: *Luke Stockless*, World Language Department Award – Latin: *Joseph Meuse*, World Language Department Award – Italian: *Modesto Rodriguez*, Social Studies Department Award: *Joseph Meuse*, Mathematics Department Award: *Luke Stockless*, Science Department Award - Biology: *Benjamin Foy*, Science Department Award - Chemistry: *Dante LoPriore*, Science Department Award - Physics: *Junming Tai*, STEM Award: *Martynas Gravell*, Art Department Award: *Joseph Connolly*, Technology Department Award: *Aaron Babu*, Business Award: *Daniel Maynard*, Physical Education Department Award: *Antonio Vigliotta.*

Malden Catholic is also proud to announce the following featured scholarship winners: Edward Shaughnessy: *Jonathan Abreu,* Breed Bayrd Scholarship: *Christian Almeida, Temidayo Lukan, Joseph Meola and Matthew Shao,* Piccolo Scholarship: *Timothy Buckley and Gyaviira Zimaze,*

James F. Donovan ’37 Memorial Scholarship Fund: *Martynas Gravell, Liam McDonough, Gabriel Portal, Cristian Rios-Vicente and Benjamin Tolson,* Malden Catholic Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship: *Ryan Constantino,* Maria Crotty Excellence in Spanish Language and Culture Scholarship: *Luke Stockless,* Giampietro Scholarship: *Daniel Luongo, Jason McGrath, Stephen Mineo, Anthony Paganis and Andrew Roman.*

[**ABOUT MALDEN CATHOLIC**](https://www.maldencatholic.org/student-life/classof2021)

Since 1932, Malden Catholic High School has shaped emerging leaders in our community, claiming a Nobel Laureate, a Senator, two ambassadors and countless community and business heads among its alumni. Annually, graduates attend some of the nation’s most renown universities including Harvard, Georgetown, Brown, Cornell, Tufts, Georgia Tech, Boston College and Amherst College. Foundational to student success is Malden Catholic's codivisional model which offers the best of both worlds, single-gender academics during the day and integrated social and extracurricular opportunities after school. Malden Catholic is known in the community for its rigorous academics, SFX Scholars Program and award-winning STEM program (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) with electives such as Robotics and Engineering Design. Malden Catholic curriculum is designed to improve individual growth mindset, leadership principles, success outcomes along with integrating the Xaverian values of trust, humility, compassion, simplicity and zeal. <https://www.maldencatholic.org/>