



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **ALLIANCE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION AWARDS \$20,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO LOCAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

**SOUTHFIELD, MI- January 22, 2020**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Live It. Show It. Share It. Scholarship Contest was open to local Elementary and High School students pursuing a Catholic high school education. The Scholarship was designed as part of the Alliance Catholic Credit Union sponsorship with the Catholic High School League and is funded through the newly formed Alliance Catholic Foundation. The contest was open to any student planning to attend a Catholic High School League affiliated school in the 2020-2021 academic school year.

Eligible students were asked to submit a meme and a short description showing how their faith inspires them to be their best in school, sports, or extra-curricular activities. These inspirational memes were set out to challenge the students' creativity and to showcase how their faith impacts their daily lives. A total of 136 eligible entries from 36 schools across the Archdiocese of Detroit were judged and narrowed down to 10 Finalists.

"Each year we challenge the students to demonstrate their faith in a different way," said Rob Grech, President/CEO of Alliance Catholic Credit Union, "and every year we are overwhelmed by the responses they provide. Selecting just ten winners is difficult. It's a phenomenal reflection of our Catholic schools."

Each of the 10 Finalists received a minimum \$1,000 scholarship and were invited to participate in a brief interview with leaders from the Credit Union and the Catholic community to potentially increase the scholarship to \$2,500, \$4,500, or \$6,000. Interviews took place at the Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit on Friday, January 17. This year, there was a tie for a third place winner.

The results of the contest are as follows:

### **Grand Prize Winner (\$6,000)**

Giselle Murad, St. Catherine of Sienna Academy

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner (\$4,500)**

Isabella Robinson, St. Catherine of Sienna Academy

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winners (\$2,500 each)**

Cole Tite, Cardinal Mooney High School

Parker Piwinski, Brother Rice High School

**(6) Finalists (\$1,000 each)**

Audrey Schena, Our Lady Star of the Sea – planning to attend Regina High School  
Jack Schmaltz, St. Regis – planning to attend Brother Rice High School  
Maria Humphreys, Fr. Gabriel Richard Ann Arbor  
Grace Moote, St. Catherine of Sienna Academy  
Sarah Davidson, St. Joseph Catholic School – planning to attend Everest Collegiate High School  
Noah Rupp, Our Lady of Good Counsel – planning to attend Fr. Gabriel Richard Ann Arbor

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**About Alliance Catholic Foundation:**

Alliance Catholic Foundation was formed to assist with carrying out the mission of Alliance Catholic Credit Union; to provide financial advantages by furthering education and improving the overall quality of life in the communities we serve throughout the Archdiocese of Detroit and across the state of Michigan. Alliance Catholic Foundation is a not-for-profit financial cooperative that provides community outreach opportunities best managed through a 501(c) (3) foundation.

**About Alliance Catholic Credit Union:**

Chartered in 1956, Alliance Catholic Credit Union is a \$440 million financial cooperative serving more than 34,000 member owners. Any person of the Catholic faith living, working, worshipping or attending school in the state of Michigan is eligible to become a member of Alliance Catholic Credit Union. Alliance Catholic Credit Union actively supports Catholic schools, parishes and organizations.

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