The Emmaus Award is presented annually at the Graduation Mass to a student graduating from the Graduate Diploma in Religious Education or the Master of Religious Education Program. The Award reflects the experience of the disciples as described in the Gospel of Luke: the hope that religious education students may attend Newman; join other disciples on a journey; and through their studies and dialogue with the content, can come to recognize Jesus more clearly.

The Criteria for selecting the recipient include the following: the individual has been identified as a person who has fostered community within his or her classes, the individual has interacted with the teaching staff at Newman and has provided evidence of the importance of their personal journey of faith; the individual has grown in faith knowledge and experience; the individual has actively engaged with the academic content of their courses, and the individual has maintained a sound academic record throughout their Program of Studies.

This year the Emmaus Award recognizes a gentleman who lives and works in Beaumont. He has worked extensively to combine a strong grasp of the theoretical issues involved in religious education with a practical sense of how these can be used in schools and in the classroom. He has had an outstanding commitment to working with teachers and students in developing and sustaining the quality of religious education in Catholic schools. His work has been of a consistently high standard, and he will graduate this afternoon with his MRE with Distinction.

Please join me in congratulating this year’s recipient: **John Jordan Robinson.**