

The Archbishop Joseph N. MacNeil Outstanding Achievement Award is given out annually to a graduate of Newman Theological College who has demonstrated:

- academic excellence,
- outstanding contribution to the community of Newman Theological College
- commitment to their faith and Christian values.

This year's recipient has been exemplary in all three of these areas throughout her studies here at NTC.

Our recipient came to graduate studies at Newman with a deep passion for the intellectual life. She was very committed to her studies, working hard in her courses and often reading for interest beyond the curriculum. Through this effort she was consistently successful in her studies and actively engaged in her classes.

The winner of this year's award was very active in the NTCSA serving as VP Academic (2019-20) and NTCSA VP Student Life (2020-21).

In these roles she carried out a number of vital functions including: serving as executive editor for the Apologia newsletter, and organizing Laudato Si activities that included promoting the search engine Ecosia and purchasing permanent dishware for the student center. During the Covid pandemic last year she actively helped promote student life organizing 8 virtual talks for students by a wide array of speakers such as Fr. Gregory Pine, Fr. Ron Rolheiser, and our own seminarian Dr. Chris Pugh. She also organized a series of virtual bi-weekly coffee chats to allow students to foster community even when they couldn't be on campus.

In regard to the recipient's commitment to her faith and Christian virtue the award selection committee were very impressed by the thoughtful and respectful way that our recipient interacted with her fellow students,

professors and staff. As one Professor commented: She was “really forward thinking and helpful in gathering students together during COVID by organizing all the Zoom presentations with some stellar theologians. As a woman theologian (a minority group) she was very strong academically and had a very integrated approach to theology and campus life. She worked very hard generally, and was a great leader in the online Week for Christian prayer service.”

Ladies and gentlemen, it is a pleasure for me to present to you this year's very worthy recipient of the Archbishop Joseph N. MacNeil Outstanding Achievement Award: Jamela Camat.