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ASSUMPTION UNIVERSITY NAMES 2020 CHRISTIAN CULTURE SERIES GOLD MEDALIST

For Immediate Release – December 9, 2020

“My dear young people, the Church needs you, your enthusiasm, your creativity, and the joy that is so characteristic of you.” – Pope Francis

Assumption University is pleased to announce and congratulate the recipient of the 2020 Christian Culture Award Gold Medal:

Mr. Luke Willson

Luke Willson is a young man who stands as an inspiration to Christian youth. Mr. Willson has climbed to the highest heights in professional sports, having been in the National Football League (NFL) for eight years. Drafted at the age of 23, Luke has played for the Seattle Seahawks, Detroit Lions, and currently with the Baltimore Ravens. Luke was a part of the 2013 Seattle Seahawks team that won Super Bowl XLVIII. In addition to his professional sports career, Luke earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from Rice University in Houston, Texas. During his time at Rice, Luke enjoyed reading the works of Plato and St. Thomas Aquinas. Luke is a faith-filled Roman Catholic who openly expresses his faith. Before each game, Luke can be found in the end zone of the field praying. Facing a competitive work environment on a daily basis he often times has referenced and credited his Catholic faith as his major reason for his success and navigation through his career, both on and off the field. Luke is a proud son of LaSalle and a graduate of St. Thomas of Villanova High School.

This prestigious award was established in 1941 by Father Stan Murphy, C.S.B. and Father W. J. Guinan, C.S.B. in order to recognize lay Christians for their efforts in contributing to “Christian ideals” in modern society. In the past seventy-nine years, the award has been presented to several prominent individuals, including Sigrid Undset, Barbara Ward, Paul Martin, Sr., Dorothy Day, Marshal McLuhan, and Martin Sheen.

The award ceremony will take place in the Spring of 2021 with a date to be confirmed shortly. The evening will begin with the formal presentation of the medal followed by a special lecture from Mr. Willson. Once again, Assumption University congratulates Mr. Willson on this achievement and looks forward to conferring the award in the spring.

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