

# **The Cathedral Builds Again...**

## Historic moment for Catholic Church in Southeast Michigan World Renowned Architect Directs Renovation Effort

This Tuesday, March 25 | Credentialed Event | Media Preview Available

Cardinal Adam Maida, archbishop of Detroit, will celebrate a Mass of Rededication for the newly renovated Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, the mother church of the Archdiocese of Detroit, on **Tuesday, March 25, at 2 p.m.** **A special Press Preview will be held at 12 noon, two hours prior to the rededication.**

The Rededication is the culmination of a \$15 million project that began in September of 2001. It is a major investment by the Archdiocese of Detroit in the City of Detroit and commitment to the Catholic faithful in southeast Michigan. Attendance at the event will be by invitation only.

Among the rituals performed as part of the Rededication Ceremony: *handing over the Cathedral* (representatives of those who have been involved in the renovation project “hand it over” to Cardinal Maida); *consecrating the new altar with sacred oil*; *sprinkling of the Cathedral* (the altar, the walls, and the congregation are blessed with holy water). Special prayers for peace will also be offered.

**You are invited to cover the Rededication and attend the Press Preview. Credentials will be required. We ask that you call the Office of Public Relations of the Archdiocese of Detroit at 313-237-5943 if you plan to attend the Mass of Rededication and/or the Press Preview.**

A Press Table will be set up on Tuesday, March 25, in the vestibule, just inside the Woodward Avenue entrance of the cathedral, where you can pick up a Press Kit and Media Identification Badge. Media parking will be available on the west side of Woodward Avenue. A video and audio feed will be available from the Catholic Television Network of Detroit truck, which will be parked behind the cathedral.

Among those participating in the Press Preview at 12 noon will be: Gunnar Birkerts, the design architect; the project manager; and priests and laypeople involved with the Design Committee. Schedule permitting, Cardinal Maida will be available at this time or after the liturgy. (Birkerts’ vision and creativity are manifest in projects as varied as the National Library, Riga, Latvia; the United States Embassy, Caracas, Venezuela; the Museum of Glass, Corning, New York; St. Peter’s Church, Columbus, Indiana; the 1300 Lafayette East Cooperative, Detroit; the law library addition, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; and the setting for the 1987 Papal Mass at the Silverdome, Pontiac.)

The Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament is located at 9844 Woodward Avenue, between Grand Boulevard and Davison, in Detroit’s Historic Boston-Edison District. For directions and more on the cathedral project, go to [AODonline.org](http://AODonline.org).

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