

News Advisory

To: News Editors and Assignment Desks
From: Ned McGrath (w) 313-237-5943 | (h) 313-886-4114
Dates: April 13 – April 20, 2003

At Blessed Sacrament Cathedral

RE: **Cardinal to Celebrate Holy Week and Easter Liturgies**

As the Lenten season draws to a close, Cardinal Adam Maida, archbishop of Detroit, soon will celebrate the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter in the newly renovated Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. Located at 9844 Woodward Avenue, between Grand Boulevard and Davison, Blessed Sacrament Cathedral is the mother church of the Archdiocese of Detroit.

On Passion (Palm) Sunday, April 13, at 10 a.m., Cardinal Maida will bless palms and celebrate Mass. This liturgy recalls the triumphal entry of Christ into Jerusalem at the beginning of His week of Passion.

On Holy Thursday, April 17, at 11 a.m., Cardinal Maida will celebrate the Chrism Mass. At this Mass, the cardinal will consecrate the Chrism and bless the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of the Catechumens. Chrism is used in baptism, confirmation and ordination. During this Mass, the priests of the Archdiocese of Detroit will make a public renewal of their commitment to priestly service.

On Holy Thursday, April 17, at 7 p.m., Cardinal Maida will celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper. During this Mass, Cardinal Maida will wash the feet of twelve people. This washing commemorates Christ washing the feet of His twelve apostles at the Last Supper.

On Good Friday, April 18, at 1 p.m., Cardinal Maida will begin the celebration of the Lord's Passion. This service will include prayers, the proclamation of the Passion, veneration of the cross, and Holy Communion.

On Holy Saturday, April 19, at 8:30 p.m., Cardinal Maida will preside at the Easter Vigil. These rites include the Blessing of the Fire, a ceremony in which the Paschal Candle is lit from a small fire in the darkened church. At the Easter Vigil, those who have completed their preparation will be baptized and/or received into full communion with the church through their Confirmation and First Eucharist.

On Easter Sunday, April 20, at 10 a.m., Cardinal Maida will be the celebrant and homilist at Mass. This liturgy celebrates the resurrection of the Lord Jesus from the dead.

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Reporters, photographers and videographers are invited to cover these events. We ask that you not interfere with the liturgies and that you abide by any instructions you may receive from the staff at the cathedral.