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To: News Editors, Assignment Desks, and other Interested Persons
From: Susan Leslie
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RE: Mass in Honor of Catholic Schools Week
10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, January 24, 2006
Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Detroit

Over 700 students, parents and staff members from elementary and secondary schools throughout the six-county area of the Archdiocese of Detroit will participate in a Mass in Honor of Catholic Schools Week.

The Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 24, in Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, 9844 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. Cardinal Adam Maida, archbishop of Detroit, will be the celebrant and homilist. Numerous priests from the archdiocese will concelebrate.

During the Mass, students will act as lectors, readers, gift bearers, and altar servers. In addition, a representative from each school will be presented with an 11 X 17 inch poster* featuring a copyright photo by Gene Meadows of a bas relief by Pierre Bataille depicting the Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching:

Life and Dignity of the Human Person
Call to Family, Community and Participation
Rights and Responsibilities
Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
Solidarity
Care for God's Creation

“Catholic Schools: Character. Compassion. Values.” is the theme of Catholic Schools Week. It is a nation-wide observance that will be held January 29 through February 4 to celebrate the important role Catholic schools play in providing values-added education for America’s young people. Locally, a variety of special events have been planned, including open houses, field trips, and Masses. A partial listing of the events can be found at www.aodonline.org.

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Members of the Media are invited to cover the Mass in Honor of Catholic Schools Week. *A color version of the poster described above can be found on the Archdiocese of Detroit website at www.aodonline.org.