BENEDICTION
BY ADAM CARDINAL MAIDA
WAYNE COUNTY EXECUTIVE ROBERT FICANO &
WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' INAUGURATION
WAYNE COUNTY BUILDING
JANUARY 2, 2003

Almighty God, as we begin a new year and witness the installation of these newly-elected County officials, we are encouraged by your words in Sacred Scripture that you desire, "to make all things new." As these public servants build upon the foundation of previous administrations, we ask that you would give them the strength, the wisdom, and the courage to look for new solutions and new opportunities to strengthen our community.

Lord God, give all of us gathered here today a fresh vision of the new horizons which await us. We ask that you would open up new opportunities for cooperation between this wonderful city of Detroit and its neighboring suburbs in Wayne County and beyond.

Lord God, you have blessed this county with a rich diversity of people with different racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. Give all of us a new spirit of openness and dialogue. May our differences enrich us and not divide us. Give us the strength of purpose to work together for the common good.

Lord God, give to our newly-elected Wayne County Executive and all the County officials the grace to discern wisely when making decisions which effect the lives of us all. We ask for a new outpouring of your Spirit upon them and all the people of this great county.

May the blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit descend upon all of you and remain with you forever. Amen.