

Archdiocese of Detroit / News Advisory

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Marriage “The Very Foundation of the Family”

Cardinal Maida on Failure of Marriage Amendment in Michigan

The Michigan House fell eight votes short in an effort to ask voters to define marriage as a union of one man and one woman. Detroit’s cardinal-archbishop responds:

“I’m disappointed that the effort by Michigan’s lawmakers to define marriage in the Constitution was not successful. Along with my brother Catholic bishops, we support providing legal protection to the state’s existing marriage statute. We do so because of what we stand for, not whom we stand against.

“Marriage makes a unique and irreplaceable contribution to the common good of society, especially through the procreation and education of children. It is the very foundation of the family. If we look to marriage as something beyond the union of one man and one woman we essentially change the societal equation.

“We see this small margin of defeat as a hopeful sign that most citizens see the definition of marriage as a matter of universal, natural law, given to us by God and pre-existing our state Constitution or national law. Marriage as a union of one man and one woman makes sense practically, legally and theologically.

“The Church did not define marriage, but she will defend it.”

Statement from Cardinal Adam Maida
Archbishop of Detroit
03.10.04

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