

Archdiocese of Detroit

March 2008

Biography of Cardinal Adam Maida

Adam Joseph Maida was born on March 18, 1930, in East Vandergrift, Pennsylvania. He was the first of three sons born to Adam Maida and Sophie Cieslak Maida.

Cardinal Maida's father, now deceased, came to the United States from a rural area near Warsaw, Poland. His mother was born in the United States and prior to her death resided in Scott Township, Pennsylvania.

One brother, Thaddeus, is a priest of the Diocese of Pittsburgh and is parochial vicar at Holy Child Parish in Bridgeville. His other brother, Daniel, lives in Presto, Pennsylvania, and is married to the former Patricia Hurley. Daniel is in private business and he and Patricia have three sons, Timothy, Joseph and Robert.

Cardinal Maida attended East Vandergrift Public Schools; Vandergrift Public High School for one year, and Scott Township High School for one year. He then completed high school and graduated from St. Mary's Preparatory, Orchard Lake, Michigan, in 1948.

Following graduation from St. Mary's, Cardinal Maida entered St. Mary's College, Orchard Lake. In 1950, he transferred to St. Vincent's College, Latrobe, Pennsylvania, where he graduated in 1952 with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy.

In 1956, Cardinal Maida graduated with a Licentiate in Sacred Theology (S.T.L.) from St. Mary's University, Baltimore, Maryland.

In 1960, Cardinal Maida received a Licentiate in Canon Law (J.C.L.) from the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome. In 1964, he was awarded a Doctorate in Civil Law (J.D.) from Duquesne Law School in Pittsburgh.

Cardinal Maida was admitted to practice law before the Bar for the State of Pennsylvania, the Federal Bar in Western Pennsylvania, and the United States Supreme Court.

On May 26, 1956, Cardinal Maida was ordained a priest in St. Paul Cathedral, Pittsburgh, by then Bishop John Dearden (deceased Cardinal Archbishop of Detroit).

Following his ordination, Cardinal Maida served in the Diocese of Pittsburgh as an associate pastor, Vice Chancellor and General Counsel of the Diocese, in the Diocesan Tribunal, and as Assistant Professor of Theology at La Roche College, and Adjunct Professor of Law at Duquesne University Law School.

On January 25, 1984, he was ordained and installed as the ninth Bishop of the Diocese of Green Bay, Wisconsin.

On May 7, 1990, Pope John Paul II named Bishop Maida Archbishop of Detroit. He was installed as Archbishop of Detroit on June 12, 1990.

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Maida Biography---FIRST ADD

On October 30, 1994, Pope John Paul II named Archbishop Maida a Cardinal. He was elevated to the College of Cardinals at a Consistory held on November 26, 1994, at the Paul VI Auditorium in the Vatican.

Current Appointments:

Roman Curia

Member Congregation for Catholic Education
 Member Congregation for the Clergy
 Consultant Pontifical Council for the Interpretation of Legislative Texts
 Consultant Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant Peoples
 Member Cardinal Commission for the Supervision of the Institute for Works of Religion (IOR)

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), Washington, D.C.

Chairman Ad Hoc Committee on Conciliation and Arbitration
 Member Ad Hoc Committee for Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe
 Consultant Committee on Migration
 Consultant Committee on Pro-Life Activities
 Episcopal Liaison Committee for the Polish Apostolate

Ave Maria School of Law, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Member Board of Governors

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.

Member Board of Trustees

Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Member Board of Trustees

International Order of Alhambra

Ecclesiastical Protector

Michigan Catholic Conference (MCC), Lansing, Michigan

Chairman Board of Trustees

National Catholic Bioethics Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Member Board of Directors

National Fellowship of Catholic Men (NFCM), Gaithersburg, Maryland

Ecclesial Advisor

The Papal Foundation, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Member Board of Trustees

Pope John Paul II Cultural Center, Washington, D.C.

President

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Maida Biography---SECOND ADD

Current Appointments (continued):

Pope John Paul II Cultural Foundation, Rome
Member

Pope John Paul II Cultural Foundation, United States
Episcopal Moderator and President

Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit, Michigan
Chairman Board of Trustees

SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, Orchard Lake, Michigan
Chairman Board of Trustees

Publications:

The Tribunal Reporter - A Casebook and Commentary on the Grounds for Annulment in the Catholic Church, Vol. 1 (1970) Editor

Ownership, Control and Sponsorship of Catholic Institutions (1975) Author

Issues in the Labor-Management Dialogue: Church Perspectives (1982) Editor

Church Property, Church Finances and Church-Related Corporations, A Canon Law Handbook (1983) Author

Languages:

Polish, Latin, Italian

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