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“A Long and Distinguished Track Record”

## **Cardinal Edmund Szoka to Leave Vatican Post**

*Pope Benedict XVI accepts the resignation of Cardinal Edmund Szoka, president of the Pontifical Commission for Vatican City State and of the Governorate of Vatican City State, requesting him, nonetheless, to remain in office until September 15, 2006, with all the faculties inherent to that role. His successor as Detroit’s archbishop, Cardinal Adam Maida, makes the following statement:*

“Since his ordination on June 5, 1954, Cardinal Szoka has given himself wholeheartedly to whatever the Church asked of him. His 52 years of priestly and episcopal ministry have had a vast and comprehensive influence in the life of the Church—in the state of Michigan and, indeed, throughout the world.

“As founding Bishop of Gaylord, Archbishop of Detroit for 9 years, and President of the Prefecture for the Economic Affairs of the Holy See, and then President of the Commission for the Vatican City State, Cardinal Szoka has established a long and distinguished track record of diligent, insightful, and strong leadership.

“His retirement will coincide with his 79th birthday—a well deserved opportunity for new freedom to be able to pursue his own interests. Knowing Cardinal Szoka as I do, I am confident that he will continue to use his gifts and talents in a variety of ways—both in the United States and for the Church Universal. Undoubtedly, our Holy Father will continue to look to him for his wise counsel.”

**Cardinal Adam Maida**  
**Archbishop of Detroit**  
**June 22, 2006**

Further biographical information about Cardinal Szoka is available at [www.AODonline.org](http://www.AODonline.org).