

**REMARKS  
BY ADAM CARDINAL MAIDA  
GROUNDBREAKING OF AUSTIN CATHOLIC ACADEMY  
FEBRUARY 14, 2008**

Bishop Boyea and Bishop Quinn, and my brother priests from the North Macomb Vicariate; Father Brecht and members of the Augustinian Order; members of the Board of Trustees of Austin Catholic Academy, Benefactors, Parents, and future students:

On this happy day, we gather to break ground for Austin Catholic Academy. As we do so, we remember the words of the Psalm, *“Unless the Lord build the house, they labor in vain who build it...”*

Truly, the Lord has inspired and sustained this work and it is right for us to give Him thanks and praise that we have successfully reached this step on our journey. I remember it was almost a decade ago that some of you first came forward with the initial proposal and outlined your vision for a school here in Macomb Township. You have patiently and diligently persisted against all odds and I want to commend you for your unwavering commitment, enthusiasm, and patience.

We all know that fundraising has been a major part of the endeavor, something that has required great diligence and persistence over the past several

years. I want to publicly acknowledge and thank the major contributors to date and am proud to say that the Archdiocese has provided the land for the school as a “loan in kind” donation.

Above all, I want to thank Father David Brecht and the Augustinian Fathers and Brothers for their willingness to offer their leadership and committed involvement with the plans for the school. Building on the foundation of a religious congregation makes all the difference in the world and gives parents confidence that the program will truly be “Catholic” in every sense of the word. The Augustinians bless us with their experience in Catholic education throughout the world.

I am impressed by the dedicated support of the priests of the vicariate and thank Father Hrydziuszko for offering St. Isidore as the site for our reception and celebration after the groundbreaking.

To the parents and young people gathered with us this day, I offer my final thoughts and blessings: you are the reason we are here, our hope for the future. In the providence of God, hopefully by the fall of 2009, some of you will actually be the first students, the pioneers of this great enterprise, Austin Catholic Academy!

“May God, who has begun the good work, bring it to completion!”