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## **DIOCESE OF ROCKFORD**

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# PRESS RELEASE

## Bishop David J. Malloy Responds to Supreme Court Decision on the Defense of Marriage Act

ROCKFORD, IL—Bishop David J. Malloy, Bishop of the 11 county Catholic Diocese of Rockford, issued the following statement today after the United States Supreme Court released its decision on the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act.

“Today’s Supreme Court ruling in *United States v. Windsor*, which challenged the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act, is a tremendous misstep for the direction of our country.

“Our faith and the very truth of our creation by God, tells us that the nature of marriage is based in the complementarity of men and women and is intimately linked to the procreation and raising of children who have a right to a mother and a father. This ruling serves to undermine this fundamental basis of human interaction and its contribution to a stable society and the protection and formation of generations to come.

“While this ruling may seem to open the door to further acceptance of a definition of marriage that is contrary to natural law, it does not change our freedom to disagree. It cannot and will not ever change what is written in our faith and in our human design.

“We will continue our call to love all our brothers and sisters made in God’s image and likeness and do so with respect for God’s plan and his will for us as men and women. Our moral compass is set by a higher power than that of any court.

We pray that those who rendered this decision will also be prepared to answer for its consequences to our society.”