

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 7, 1937

Dear Monsignor Ryan:

I have much pleasure in inviting you to deliver the Benediction at the conclusion of the exercises in connection with my inauguration at the Capitol on January twentieth. I shall esteem it a high honor if you can perform this service.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Franklin D. Roosevelt". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed text of the letter.

Right Reverend Msgr. John A. Ryan, D.D.,  
Catholic University,  
Washington, D. C.

January 7, 1937.

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt,  
The White House,  
Washington.

Dear Mr. President:

It gives me unusual pleasure to accept your invitation to deliver the Benediction, January twentieth, at the close of the Inauguration exercises. If the blessing which Almighty God will bestow upon the President and his administration during the next four years shall be in proportion to the sincerity and fervor of the formal petition on this occasion, both you and the American people will have abundant cause to be satisfied and grateful. I assure you that I deeply appreciate this great honor.

Sincerely yours,

Director,  
Department of Social Action.