



PRAYER

God our Creator, from Your provident hand we have received our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. You have given us the right and the duty to worship You.

You call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society. Give us strength of mind and heart to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened. Give us courage in making our voices heard on behalf of the rights of Your Church and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith.

Grant us a clear and united voice for the sake of our children and all who come after us — that this great land will always be "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



Works of Mercy

CORPORAL

1. Feed the Hungry Mt 25:35
2. Give Drink to the Thirsty Mt 25:35
3. Clothe the Naked Mt 25:36
4. Shelter the Homeless Mt 25:35
5. Visit the Sick Mt 25:36
6. Visit the Imprisoned Mt 25:35
7. Bury the Dead Mt 25:40

SPIRITUAL

1. Instruct the Uninformed Mt 16:15
2. Counsel the Doubtful Jn 14:27
3. Admonish Sinners Lk 15:7
4. Bear Wrongs Patiently Lk 6:27
5. Forgive Offenses Mt 6:12
6. Comfort the Sorrowful Mt 11:28
7. Pray for the Living and the Dead Jn 17:24

***No one person can do everything,
but everyone can do something.***



RELIGIOUS LIBERTY





CHURCH TEACHING

Catechism 1776 ***Gaudium et Spes, 16***

Deep within his conscience man discovers a law which he has not laid upon himself but which he must obey. Its voice, ever calling him to love and to do what is good and to avoid evil, sounds in his heart at the right moment...

For man has in his heart a law inscribed by God ... His conscience is man's most secret core and his sanctuary. There he is alone with God Whose Voice echoes in his depths.

WHAT is ***RELIGIOUS LIBERTY ?***

The highest freedom is not the ability to do anything whatever, but instead the ability to act for the highest good and to seek truth, to embrace it, and to become united with it. This is religious liberty.

According to Dignitatis Humanae, "...the right to religious freedom has its foundation in the very dignity of the human person as this dignity is known through the revealed Word of God and by reason itself. This right of the human person to religious freedom is to be recognized in constitutional law & thus it is to become a civil right." Our religious liberty is protected in the 1st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and in various federal and state laws.

Our freedom includes more than our ability to worship & pray inside a church or at home. It also encompasses our ability to contribute freely to the common good in accord with the fullness of our Faith. Threats include laws on contraception and abortion-inducing drugs; healthcare; and adoption services; and discrimination against Christian students.

The USCCB calls us to respond to threats of conscience protection and religious liberties through prayer, education, and advocacy. Inform your conscience by learning the reasons behind Church teaching. Then inform your elected officials of your perspective. Politely remind them that you have a vote and you know how to use it.

RESOURCES and IDEAS

Learn more, educate others, and donate time, treasure, and/or talent for an organization working to defend conscience protection and religious liberty.

Forming Consciences for Faithful

Citizenship usccb.org/issues-and-action/fair-faithful-citizenship/upload/forming-consciences-for-faithful-citizenship.pdf

USCCB Informational Sheet -- Get Involved

usccb.org/issues-and-action/get-involved/get-more-information/index.cfm

USCCB.org/freedom — Learn what the Church is doing to promote and defend religious freedom in law and policy.

nolacatholic.org/human-cloning-stem-cell-research— Info on conscience protection & religious liberty. Schedule a basic presentation.

CONTACT your Louisiana & U.S. Legislators

legis.la.gov/legis/FindMyLegislators.aspx

ASK a LOCAL LIBRARY to showcase religious liberty.

WRITE to the editor or post on social media about conscience protection & religious liberty.

OBSERVE the annual Religious Freedom Week (June 22 – 29) usccb.org/committees/religious-liberty/religious-freedom-week

Visit Human Life Action's Action Alert for a full list of current Action Alerts
humanlifeaction.org/take-action/action-alerts

Register and Vote in all Elections

PRAY a ROSARY, dedicating one Hail Mary for each of the 50 states