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## Free to Serve USCCB Religious Liberty News *"We are Catholics, We are Americans"*

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### New and Notable

#### Archbishop Kurtz, Archbishop Chaput, and Bishop Conley Comment on Supreme Court's Oral Arguments on Religious Freedom of Creative Professionals

America has the ability to serve every person while making room for valid conscientious objection. [Read more.](#)

#### First Freedom Podcast

The Supreme Court recently heard oral argument in the case of *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. the Colorado Civil Rights Commission*, an important case about the rights of creative professionals in a pluralistic society. In [Episode 10 of the First Freedom Podcast](#), we talk with Hillary Byrnes, Lead Staff to the Committee for Religious Liberty, about the Masterpiece Cakeshop case. [Check it out!](#)

#### Faith Leaders Affirm the Inherent Beauty and Dignity of Being Created Male or Female

Faith leaders issued an open letter entitled "Created Male and Female." Archbishop Kurtz, chairman of the Committee for Religious Liberty, as well as Archbishop Charles Chaput, Bishop James Conley, and Bishop Joseph Bambera signed the letter. [Read more.](#)

#### Will They Be Free to Serve?

By Mary McClusky

I can still see the tiny pink socks. And boxes and boxes of diapers. Most of all, I remember the warmth and cheeriness of the staff as I toured the St. Gianna

Molla Pregnancy Help Center in downtown Buffalo, New York. Their love and dedication shone brightly through every word and smile. [Read more.](#)

### **Our King of Peace**

by Aaron Matthew Weldon

Polarization can infect the Church, rendering us unable to engage in mission. The Church isn't much of a field hospital when her members are actively picking at the wounds in our society. [Read more.](#)

### **No One Should Be Forced to Participate in an Abortion**

By Greg Schleppebach

In early November, three brave nurses came to Washington, D.C. to tell their disturbing stories of coercion to members of Congress and the public-about how they were forced to choose between participating in abortion and losing their jobs. [Read more.](#)

### **Urge Congress to Enact the Conscience Protection Act of 2017!**

The Conscience Protection Act of 2017 (H.R. 644) has been included in appropriations legislation, H.R. 3354. The Senate is also encouraged to include it in must-pass, end-of-year appropriations legislation. This much-needed, common-sense legislation will clarify federal law and ensure that those who provide health care and health coverage can do so without being forced by government to help destroy innocent unborn children. Let your representatives in Congress know that we expect them to protect our most cherished liberties. [Take action today!](#)

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*Non datur libertas sine veritate.*