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News and resources from the USCCB Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty



Free to Serve USCCB Religious Liberty News

"We are Catholics, We are Americans"

November 2015

Vol. I: No. 2

New and Notable

Archbishop Lori received the International Religious Freedom Award from the J. Reuben Clark Law Society and the International Center for Law & Religious Studies at Brigham Young University. His acceptance speech looks at Pope Francis and a [renewed vision of religious freedom](#). In *America Magazine's* "In All Things" web column, Archbishop Lori [revisits Pope Francis's witness to religious freedom during his the U.S.](#)

Speaking of Pope Francis, we have compiled a collection of quotes from the Holy Father on religious freedom. The document has been updated to include quotes and photos from his recent trip to the U.S. and is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

"Faith in the Lord who calls us to service forms the bedrock on which many of the Church's greatest contributions to the world have been built." Aaron Weldon reflects on [religious freedom and the Church's role in healthcare](#), while Richard Doerflinger reminds us that now is the [time to speak up for the conscience rights](#) of those who work in health care.

The last Sunday of Ordinary Time, November 22, the Church celebrates the

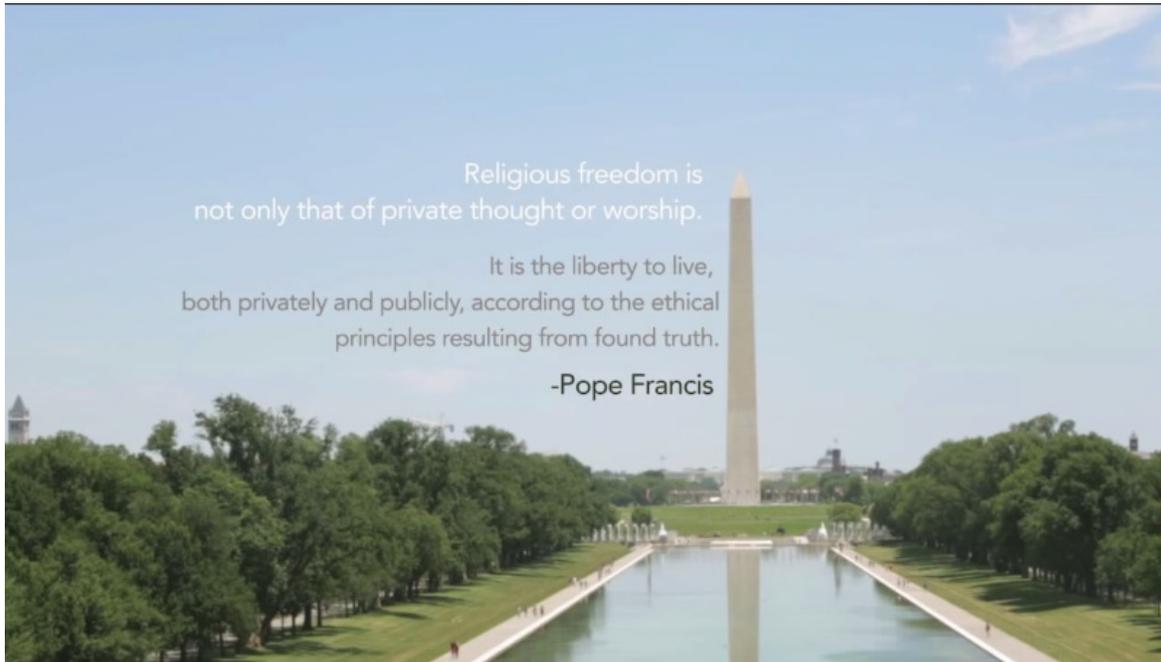
Solemnity of Christ the King, a time to pray for the protection of religious freedom.

[Download a resource for this important day here.](#)

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Video

What is Religious Freedom?



Religious freedom is not only that of private worship. This [4 minute video](#) features stories of the importance of religious freedom for institutions that perform the works of mercy - educating children, feeding the hungry, and healing the sick.

A Naked Market Square?

By Aaron Matthew Weldon

One would think most people would be happy about principled people operating businesses. If a member of the community can support her family and do some good with her business-such as providing well-paid jobs and donating to local causes-then so much the better for the community. Many religious people running businesses contribute to the common good. They operate their enterprises with a sense of mission. We want companies to pay their employees well and to care for the communities that support them. The CEO of Whole Foods Market has even called for a "[conscious capitalism](#)," where businesses

"endeavor to create financial, intellectual, social, cultural, emotional, spiritual, physical and ecological wealth for all their stakeholders."

However, an increasingly common, and troubling, assertion today is that people no longer have the right to exercise a *religious* conscience when they enter the stream of commerce. [Read more...](#)

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Non datur libertas sine veritate.