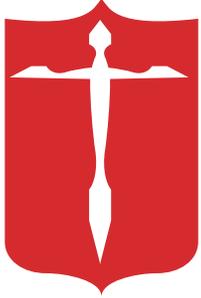


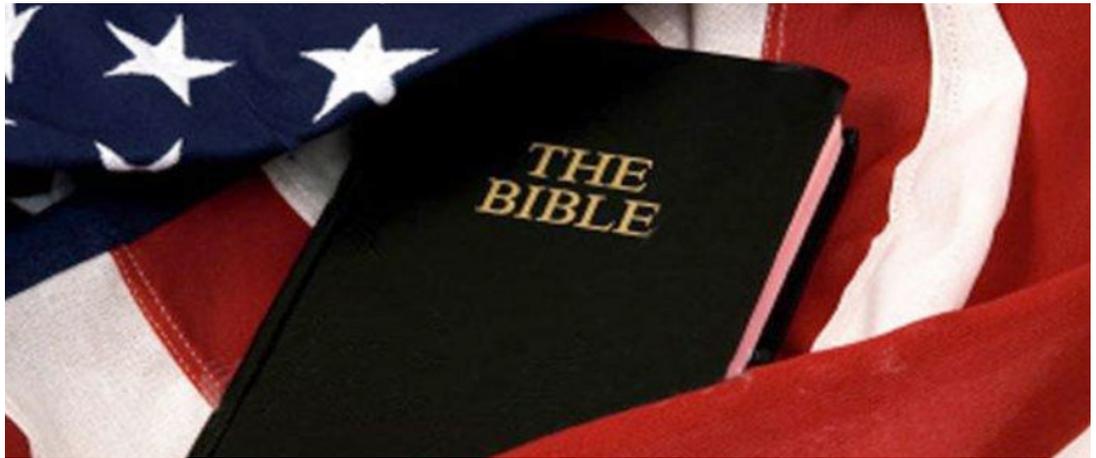
# FORTNIGHT FOR FREEDOM

JUNE 21-JULY 4, 2017



*"It's thus perfectly logical that the most acute threats to our religious freedom come .... from gender theorists and sex-rights activists - and businesses happy to support them - who push "liberation"."*

- Archbishop Chaput,  
Strangers in a Strange  
Land



## OUR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND RIGHTS OF CONSCIENCE ARE IN JEOPARDY

In response to the threat against traditional marriage, religious liberty, freedom of conscience, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services "contraceptive mandate", the U.S. Bishops have called for a "Fortnight for Freedom" since 2012. You are invited to join Catholics and people of faith across America during this 14-day campaign, June 21 - July 4, to pray, fast and make sacrifices for the protection of our religious freedom.

## *What Can You Do?*

### • JOIN US

**Fortnight for  
Freedom Holy Hour  
SVdP Church**

**Thursday, June 29**

**7:00-8:00pm**

**Patriotic Music**

**Speaker: Father Andrew  
Kemberling, V.F.**

### • PRAY DAILY

**Anywhere on Your Own  
June 21 - July 4th**

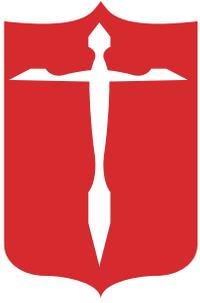
PRAYER ON REVERSE SIDE >



**Text the word  
FREEDOM  
to 377377  
for updates**



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**  
CATHOLIC PARISH & SCHOOL



## PRAYER:

**O God our Creator,**

Through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society. We ask you to bless us in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty. Give us the 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, we pray, O heavenly Father, a clear and united voice to all your sons and daughters gathered in your Church in this decisive hour in the history of our nation, so that, with every trial withstood and every danger overcome—for the sake of our children, our grandchildren, and all who come after us— 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.**



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**  
CATHOLIC PARISH & SCHOOL



## SOME OF THE ISSUES WE FACE:

- **Supreme Court**

As we see from the last presidential election, elections have consequences. Deceased Supreme Court Justice Scalia was thankfully replaced by a conservative. However the “swing” vote in upcoming religious liberty cases will be cast by Justice Kennedy, the author of the majority opinion in the recent gay marriage “legalization” case. Pray that Justice Kennedy upholds religious liberty for people of faith...or retires soon!

- **Continued threats to religious liberty**

- California - On April 3, 2016, a 33-year Air Force veteran, Oscar Rodriguez, speaking at a friend’s retirement ceremony in Sacramento, was assaulted and dragged from the ceremony by four uniformed airmen. His crime? He mentioned “God” in the retirement speech.
- Maine - On May 16, 2017, a complaint of religious discrimination and retaliation was filed against the Augusta, Maine school district on behalf of Toni Richardson, an employee. Her crime: she told a co-worker in a private conversation, “I will pray for you”. Later she was banned from ever making “faith-based” statements on school grounds - even in private - threatening her with termination.
- Kentucky - When a Kentucky t-shirt printer, Blaine Adamson, was asked to print a shirt that promoted the local gay Pride Parade, he explained that he could not print a shirt bearing a message that conflicts with his faith. A discrimination complaint was filed against him by the Pride Parade sponsor. In May, 2017, the Kentucky Court of Appeals ruled that Blaine is free to decline orders that would require him to print and promote messages that conflict with his religious beliefs.
- (Note: Kentucky has a state Religious Freedom Restoration law. Colorado does not have a similar law.)

*“ ... religious liberty, by its nature, transcends places of worship and the private sphere of individuals and families. Because religion itself, ... is not a subculture; it is part of the culture of every people and every nation..”*

**- Pope Francis**