

## **RELIGIOUS LIBERTY SUPPORTERS TO TEXT 'FREEDOM' OR 'LIBERTAD'**

*Catholic communities nationwide join text message campaign*

*Promote education, action in support of First Amendment*

*Support Fortnight for Freedom June 21-July 4*

WASHINGTON-The U.S. bishops launched a text messaging campaign June 21 to provide a new way for people to join the national campaign for religious freedom.

Catholics and supporters of religious freedom from all other faiths around the nation now can send the text message "Freedom" to 377377 to join the movement. Texters can then receive information regularly on how to help protect religious freedom worldwide.

"Across America, our right to live out our faith is being threatened - from Washington's forcing Catholic institutions to provide services that contradict their beliefs, to state governments' prohibiting religious charities from serving the most vulnerable," said Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, the chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty. "We encourage all supporters around the country to text the simple, meaningful word 'Freedom' (for English) or 'Libertad' (for Spanish) to 377377 to join the movement."

The U.S. bishops have issued a call to action to defend religious liberty and urged laity to work to protect the First Freedom of the Bill of Rights. In one major initiative, the Fortnight for Freedom, from June 21 to Independence Day, July 4, dioceses and parishes will commemorate this special two-week period of prayer, study and public action to emphasize both the Christian and American heritage of liberty.

The U.S. bishops plan to communicate with supporters by SMS (short message service) about twice a month. Standard text message and data rates may apply. Reply STOP to opt-out. Reply HELP or contact [FREEDOM@USCCB.ORG](mailto:FREEDOM@USCCB.ORG) for help. Bulletin inserts about the texting campaign can be found at <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and->

[action/religious-liberty/fortnight-for-freedom/upload/fortnight-for-freedom-bulletin-insert.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/fortnight-for-freedom/upload/fortnight-for-freedom-bulletin-insert.pdf) (English) or <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/fortnight-for-freedom/upload/fortnight-for-freedom-bulletin-insert-spanish.pdf> (Spanish). Visit [www.Fortnight4Freedom.org](http://www.Fortnight4Freedom.org) for more details.

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