

Intercessory Prayer
for use during the
Fortnight for Freedom Ecumenical Prayer Service
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Celebrant:

Brothers and Sisters, we are aware that only in Christ do we find true freedom, let us present our prayers, interceding for all in need. Please respond: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Reader:

1. For people of faith who fight to preserve religious liberty: during this “Fortnight for Freedom,” may the Lord strengthen their resolve to hold firm in their witness, *we pray to the Lord...*
2. For Christians everywhere, that while striving for a life lived in the spirit of the Lord, his grace may protect their faith in times of peace and sustain their fortitude in times of trial, *we pray to the Lord...*
3. For the many ministries of people of faith that reveal God’s power and love to a broken world, especially through works of mercy, education, health care, community centers, and charitable services: may they enjoy full protection of the law to fulfill their mission, *we pray to the Lord...*
4. For our Christian communities, trusting in God’s grace to save: may we, through the gifts of the Spirit, have the wisdom to know God’s will and find courage to stand up in witness to his love, *we pray to the Lord...*
5. For our nation, that during this “Fortnight for Freedom,” all may be encouraged to stand firm on the principle upheld by our founding fathers, “liberty and justice for all,” *we pray to the Lord...*
6. For civil authorities and all those who enact and uphold laws: for God’s wisdom to guide their decisions to protect religious freedom and conscience rights for all, *we pray to the Lord...*
7. For those who suffer physical persecution or moral oppression because of their religious beliefs. May the God of truth and compassion console them in their suffering, *we pray to the Lord....*
8. For all peoples of the world, that this “Fortnight for Freedom” may inspire and encourage all governments to advance and protect religious liberty for all their people, *we pray to the Lord...*

Celebrant:

Almighty eternal God,
in whom we find true freedom and lasting peace,
look with favor, we pray, on our needs
and, seeing the faith that inspires us to pray to you,
grant what we truly need, especially the freedom to serve you in love.

Through Christ our Lord.

-Amen