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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 Joseph Kurtz Elected Chairman of Committee for Religious Liberty**

Congratulations to Archbishop Kurtz, and thank you to Archbishop Lori for his six years of service leading the Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty! [Read more.](#)

#### **Solemnity of Christ the King: Solidarity in Suffering**

Join USCCB, the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Relief Services, Aid to the Church in Need, and CNEWA on November 26th, the Solemnity of Christ the King, for a Day of Prayer for Persecuted Christians. [Learn more.](#)

#### **New Video: Religious Freedom and Christians in the Middle East**

Christianity was born in the Middle East, and churches have long made important contributions to Middle East culture. But today, Christianity is under threat in the land of its birth. [Learn more about Middle East Christians and efforts to support them.](#)

#### **Persecution: Solidarity in Suffering**

by Stephen M. Colecchi

Two years ago in Erbil, Iraq, I looked out the window of my hotel to see tents packed together on the grounds of a chapel. Christian families, displaced from Mosul, now lived in tents. I remember strolling through the narrow, mud-caked paths among the tents. Families, many with young children, shyly peered out from their tents. In one tent there were 2 families and 11 persons. [Read more.](#)

## Pray for Our Brothers and Sisters in the Middle East

by Aaron Matthew Weldon

My biological brothers are not my only brothers. I am also bound in solidarity with all the men and women who have been baptized into Christ, who week-after-week pray: Our Father, Pater noster, Abā-nā. All Christians, from all parts of the world, are my brothers and sisters in Christ. [Read more.](#)

## First Freedom Podcast

[Episode 9: Christians in the Middle East, with Jordan Allott](#)

## 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.*