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## Focus on Religious Freedom

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### National Prayer Breakfasts Highlight “One Nation Under God”

*“The church must be reminded that it is not the master, or the servant of the state, but rather the conscience of the state.” - Martin Luther King, Jr.*

In our most influential public square...the Capitol of our nation, two major prayer events were held in Feb. welcoming a bipartisan representation of politicians and other Americans to hear messages of morals, faith and religious liberty from the speakers. They prayed together for unity in our nation and for God’s guidance so that Americans will flourish.

The National Prayer Breakfast, Feb. 6, 2025 was first held in 1953. This year President Trump addressed the gathering and pointed out that Thomas Jefferson once attended church services in the old house chamber which was the very place President Trump stood to address the breakfast’s attendees. The president urged all Americans to protect our bedrock value of Religious Liberty and to reinvigorate religion and morals as our goal and guide.

On Feb. 28, The National Catholic Prayer Breakfast, where this year’s theme was “Hope”, marked the 20<sup>th</sup> year of this call to Catholics and all Americans to come together and pray for our nation and the flourishing of Americans. The main speaker, Vice-President J.D. Vance, a convert to Catholicism, shared glimpses of his faith journey and the joy of his son’s baptism.

There have always been critics of these prayer events who protest that “separation of church and state” prohibits this focus on God, faith and prayer at the Capitol. In fact, Thomas Jefferson’s use of that phrase was as protection of churches and individual conscience from interference by the state.

Read More: <https://tinyurl.com/4vct44y> <https://tinyurl.com/2kef862x>

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