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## Focus on Religious Freedom

[www.cffor.org](http://www.cffor.org)

***“We belong to the Church militant; and She is militant because on earth the powers of darkness are ever restless to encompass Her destruction.” - Pope Pius XII, 1953***

### **Catholic Laity Called to Defend the Church and Religious Freedom for All**

The recent “honor” given to an anti-Catholic group by the LA Dodgers demonstrates that anti-Catholic sentiment can be publicly applauded with no fear of push back from a majority of Americans. The threat to all their freedoms posed by a Godless culture is unknown by most Americans because we have long failed to teach the Judeo-Christian foundations of our nation.

Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone of San Francisco expressed his gratitude to Catholics and Christians who joined together at the California stadium in protest of the Dodger’s event and also protested at the capitol where a leader of the group was honored by some California lawmakers.

Pope Pius XII, Pope Benedict, Pope Francis and Cardinal Dolan are among church clergy who have called for the laity to use their charism (a special gift, an extraordinary power) from the Holy Spirit to fulfill the missions of the church.

- We lay Catholics have the personal responsibility to learn, understand and teach others the meaning and effects of the freedom to believe as we choose and practice our faith without persecution or derision.
- Our Declaration of Independence asserts that our inalienable rights come from our Creator. Therefore, no king or emperor or tyrant may tell Americans which inalienable rights they may and may not practice.
- Americans are blessed to live under a Constitution whose 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment protects us with a wall of separation, as explained by Pres. Thomas Jefferson, which directs our government not to interfere in our God given rights of conscience.

Ten years ago Catholic laity in the Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY came together to learn and teach the facts of religious freedom to fellow parishioners. With the support and encouragement of then Bishop William Murphy the group organized speaking events, religious freedom rallies, public witness rosaries, a student education video and materials, a Rosary for America booklet and initiative and much more. On their website [www.cffor.org](http://www.cffor.org) there are a series of weekly lessons providing an efficient education in the facts and importance of religious freedom.

Read more about religious freedom issues here: [bit.ly/3rBdw3M](http://bit.ly/3rBdw3M)    [bit.ly/44TQ2VP](http://bit.ly/44TQ2VP)

***We do not wrestle against flesh and blood; but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.***

***(Eph. 6:11,12)***

