



Focus on Religious Freedom

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Happy New Year from Catholics for Freedom of Religion in Myrtle Beach, SC

- In 2014 the Board of Directors of Catholics for Freedom of Religion asked Carol Jean Walters to become the South Carolina State Director of Catholics for Freedom of Religion. Carol Jean, a member of St. Andrew parish in Myrtle Beach, said yes to the challenge of initiating freedom of religion education and events in SC.

- In addition to providing our bulletin insert articles to SC parishes, Carol Jean has hosted 9 years of celebrations of National Religious Freedom Day on each Jan. 16. That day is a dinner and ceremony where students from St. Andrews school receive awards for the winning essays on Religious Freedom, several veterans who attend with family and friends are awarded "Quilts of Valor" and the Fr. Anthony Montesinos Council #5086 Knights of Columbus present the ceremonial, traditional folding of the American flag.

-For eleven years Carol Jean has also reached out to the governor requesting a State of South Carolina Declaration of Religious Freedom. Those Declarations have been issued and South Carolina joins only a few states making that effort to alert and educate their citizens.

-For the 112th consecutive month Carol Jean and Catholics from St. Andrew, St. Michael, Our Lady Star of the Sea and other visitors from as far away as Canada and Cuba, prayed the Rosary for America on Dec. 15 asking Mary to intercede for our nation's citizens and leaders that we may preserve the inalienable rights from our Creator, including Freedom of Religion. The public prayer was suggested by Bishop Emeritus Robert E. Guglielmone who urged prayer in public in addition to prayers in our churches. The monthly rosary is prayed at Myrtle Beach's Warbird Park, dedicated to the men and women of the United States Air Force.

