

## **Sample Announcements for the Religious Liberty Restoration Amendment**

In Catholic teaching, religious freedom is a fundamental human right. Unfortunately, that right is being eroded in our country through court and legislative actions. As Catholics, we have an duty to defend religious liberty for everyone. A statewide effort is currently underway to place a religious liberty restoration amendment in the state constitution. Please take the opportunity to sign a petition after this liturgy.

A 1990 U.S. Supreme Court decision significantly weakened religious freedom in this country. Congress and other states have responded by restoring religious liberty to traditional levels. Now it is North Dakota's turn. Our bishop is asking all Catholics to defend religious liberty by supporting a statewide effort to place a religious liberty restoration amendment in the state constitution. Please take the opportunity to sign a petition after this liturgy.

During the next few weeks, the North Dakota Catholic Conference and other organizations will work to collect the necessary number of signatures to preserve and protect religious freedom through an amendment to the state constitution. Please sign the petition to place the proposed religious liberty restoration amendment on November ballot.

(Your parish name) needs your support to protect religious liberty in North Dakota. A citizen-initiated petition drive supported by the state's Catholic bishops hopes to collect enough signatures to amend the state constitution to make religious liberty a fundamental legal right. Following this liturgy you will have an opportunity to sign the petition.

In order to preserve legal protection for religious liberty, the Roman Catholic Bishops of the state, through the North Dakota Catholic Conference, have joined a petition drive restore legal protection for religious freedom. Petition signatures are being gathered from Catholics across the state this month. Following today's liturgy, you will have an opportunity to join in this important effort.