**Diocese of Venice in Florida**

**2018 Religious Freedom**

***14-Day Film Festival***

*We must promote religious liberty for all people. Every man and woman must be free to profess his or her faith, whatever it may be. Why? Because that man and that woman are children of God."* – Pope Francis

Fortnight for Freedom was created by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to protect Religious Freedom, and this year is known as Religious Freedom Week. For answers to frequently asked questions about the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the religious protections granted therein visit:

http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/upload/Religious-Liberty-Frequently-Asked-Questions.pdf

**Description of 14-Day Film Festival:** Diocese of Venice participants will have 14 days (June 7 – June 21) to create a short video (2-10 minutes) on an aspect of Religious Freedom. Individuals or teams will write, shoot, edit and upload the video to the Communication Director at the Diocese of Venice which will be viewed at an evening showcase on June 29, 2018.

**Team Name:­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Participant Names:

Address:

City: State: Zip:

Email:

Cell Phone: Home Phone:

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Timeline:** The contest begins June 7, 2018 and concludes at 12 midnight on June 21, 2018.

**Criteria for Video Selections:**

Movies need to embrace and/or be informed by a Catholic Church perspective with its desire to protect religious freedom. To be considered for the awards the movie needs to avoid attacking persons and politicians, but rather engage the issues of the protection of the rights of believers.

Movies must remain appropriate to be viewed by all ages; this includes clean language and modest attire.

The following are some suggested themes to consider: Bearing Witness to the Truth, Freedom of Expression, Freedom of Conscience, First Amendment Rights, Following your conscience in truth, Right of Religious Freedom and Freedom from Persecution. Other topics might include the Right to express your Religious Beliefs, and the Right to Profess in the Public Square.

***Ideas to consider:***

What happens when religious rights are taken away?

What happens when the government forces you to do something against your conscience?

Do others have a right to make you fearful to have Faith and express your beliefs?

**Directions for Submission:**

Videos must be uploaded to a private link on Vimeo.com by midnight, June 21, 2018 in high resolution format of 1080i. The private Vimeo link must be emailed to Susan Laielli, Diocese of Venice Director of Communication, at [Laielli@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:Laielli@dioceseofvenice.org). All submissions must have the official registration form and waiver attached to the email.

The Diocese of Venice will possibly use official selections on social media, DOV website and potentially send to the USCCB for future Religious Freedom events. All participants must sign an official use waiver found on the Diocesan website at www.dioceseofvenice.org.

The Diocese of Venice will host a 2018 Religious Freedom Film Festival the week of June 24-29, 2018 at various Diocesan events. Winners will be selected following the showing of all official selections.

**Award Prizes:**

All Official Submissions will receive a small award for their time and commitment. in addition, prizes will be awarded in the following categories;

* First Place - $500.00
* Second Place - $250.00
* Third Place $100.00