



# Friday Fast

For Life, Marriage & Religious Liberty

## April 4: Lent Edition

### Intention:

We pray that people in the U.S. and around the world will be able to conduct their professional lives according to their religious beliefs.

### Did you know?

A [recent analysis](#) shows that broader threats to religious freedom in the United States appear to be growing. The U.S. now has a substantially higher level of government restrictions on religion, according to a Pew Research [study](#) published earlier this year. Experts attribute the rise in religious restrictions in the U.S. to several factors, including conflicts arising in zoning laws, property rights, and religious expression in schools, courts, and other public settings.

### Quick Links

- ⇒ [Call to Prayer Facebook page](#)
- ⇒ [Join the movement! \(Video\)](#)
- ⇒ [Past weekly intentions and reflections](#)

### Reflection:

On Monday, March 31, [Pope Francis met with members of the Green family](#), the evangelical Christian owners of Hobby Lobby, a chain of U.S. craft stores. The Greens and their closely-held companies challenged the HHS mandate in a case that was heard by the Supreme Court last week.

At the meeting, the Greens thanked Pope Francis for loaning certain pieces from the Vatican museum and library to the Greens' traveling art exhibition, "Verbum Domini II" (Latin for "The Word of the Lord"). The Holy Father asked how the Hobby Lobby case was progressing.

As the Supreme Court considers this case, as well as the [Conestoga Wood Specialties case](#) on behalf of a devout Mennonite family, let us pray that religious liberty will be upheld.

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