



RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEKLY

from

Americans for Freedom of Religion

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America's Religious Freedom Can Open Doors to Sainly Lives

Believing with Thomas Jefferson that "Almighty God hath created the mind to be free" America's founders encouraged and empowered a plurality of religions intending that each American could practice, with free conscience, their chosen faith without fear or persecution.

The colonial practices of restricting religious practices to only those sects chartered in each colony and requiring test acts of adherence to a particular sect in order to hold political office were replaced in our Constitution with freedom of conscience for all. The First Amendment further defined religious freedom by specifying Americans should never be subject to government dictated religious sects and would be assured of the free and open exercise of their own faith.

For exercising their faith with magnificent benefits to our nation, several Catholic saints are named to be recognized in our capitol's planned National Garden of American Heroes and be honored for their vision, dedication, leadership, loyalty and courage. St. Junípero Serra, St. John Neumann, St. Katharine Drexel, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, and St. Kateri Tekakwitha, along with Venerable Fulton Sheen, Venerable Augustus Tolton, and Servant of God Dorothy Day will be among the 250 honorees.

It is no surprise to Catholics that our nation acknowledges the immense contributions of these saints, but it is a testimony to America's religious freedom that their efforts were not impeded because of the faith that impelled their good works.

Read more: <https://tinyurl.com/33mxza82> <https://tinyurl.com/45kdeuv4> <https://tinyurl.com/yvucud35>

Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible. – St. Francis of Assisi