



**WINNING AND STILL WAITING.** Lori Windham (c), senior counsel for the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, representing Hobby Lobby Stores Inc., addresses the news media in front of the Supreme Court after the court ruled 5-4 in June that requiring family-owned corporations to pay for insurance coverage for contraception under the Affordable Care Act violates a federal law protecting religious freedom. Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images At right, Mother Loraine Marie Maguire, provincial of the Little Sisters of the Poor, speaks to the media regarding her order's case against the federal government's contraception mandate. The case — and similar cases, such as EWTN's — are ongoing. AP photo/Brennan Linsley



**ANOTHER LINK IN THE CHAIN.** Protesters pray in front of the U.S. Supreme Court on Oct. 6, the day the court announced that it would not hear pending same-sex 'marriage' cases in Indiana, Oklahoma, Utah, Virginia and Wisconsin, paving the way for the redefinition of marriage in 11 more states. At the close of 2014, 34 states had adopted same-sex 'marriage.' Alex Wong/Getty Images



**FAMILY-FRIENDLY PHILLY.** Archbishop Charles Chaput of Philadelphia, the host city for the 2015 World Meeting of Families, was pleased that Pope Francis announced in November that he will make the trip for the September gathering. Chris Warde-Jones/Humanum.it

# 2014 in Review

Pro-Life Gains in Congress, Marriage Loses Ground, and Immigration Reform Remains Thorny Issue

**PROBLEMS AT THE CORE.** Although Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal's battle against Common Core education standards lost ground when a court lifted his suspension on the standards in August, Catholic advocates for education reform praised the governor for his efforts. Win McNamee/Getty Images



**RACIALLY CHARGED DECISION.** People loot the Ferguson Market and Liquor store on Aug. 16, in Ferguson, Mo., in the aftermath of the Aug. 9 shooting death of Michael Brown by Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson. Further rioting and looting, as well as peaceful protests, also took place in the aftermath of a grand jury's Nov. 24 decision not to indict Wilson. After the decision, Archbishop Robert Carlson of St. Louis and local Church leaders called for calm amid the storm of anger. Scott Olson/Getty Images




**PASSING THE BATON.** Archbishop-elect Blase Cupich (r) greets Cardinal Francis George, archbishop of Chicago, during a press conference in September that named the Spokane bishop to succeed Cardinal George in the City of Big Shoulders. Archbishop Cupich was installed at a Nov. 18 Mass in Chicago. Scott Olson/Getty Images



**PRO-LIFE VICTORIES.** The November midterm elections resulted in several victories that gave hope to pro-lifers, including wins by pro-life women: Republican candidate Joni Ernst (above left) embraces Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds after Ernst won a tight U.S. Senate race in Iowa. Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images Elise Stefanik, a Catholic Republican, won her race in the 21st Congressional District in New York, and Mia Love (above center), a Republican, won her race for Utah's 4th Congressional District. Mark Wilson/Getty Images Saira Blair (above right), an 18-year-old Catholic freshman at West Virginia University, became the youngest elected state legislator in the United States. AP photo/Cliff Owen



**POLITICAL VOLLEYBALL.** Cardinal Sean O'Malley (above), archbishop of Boston, arrives for Mass to pray for comprehensive immigration reform at the U.S.-Mexico border in Nogales, Ariz., in April. In November, President Barack Obama ignited a firestorm of criticism when he signed an executive order that provided temporary legal status to about 5 million immigrants residing in the United States without legal status. In July, the president angered people of faith when he signed another executive order that prohibits federal employers and contractors from discriminating against homosexual employees without offering a conscience exemption. John Moore/Getty Images



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