## Tacoma Rally - 12:00 Noon - Tollefson Plaza

17<sup>th</sup> and Pacific Avenue - Downtown Tacoma- Across from Federal Courthouse and art museum

By now you've probably heard about the HUGE controversy going on over the Health and Human Services (HHS) Mandate. "HHS Mandate". The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is now MANDATING that ALL employers provide free contraceptives, sterilization and abortion-inducing drugs through their health plans. The HHS provided a "religious exemption" so narrow that it would exclude faith based charities, universities and hospitals, forcing these institutions to act in direct opposition to their moral convictions and church teaching through the health care plans they provide.

**THAT'S RIGHT!** The government will now decide what "counts" as a religious institution in this country. In fact, not even Jesus and His Apostles would have qualified under the HHS definition of a religious group!

WILL THEY DIVIDE US? Everyone who exercises their faith in any way is affected by this.

This is certainly not a Catholic issue as it seems the HHS and their supporters thought they could portray it as. All religious groups will be affected. It is also not a contraception issue. It is a direct violation of the religious freedoms acknowledged in our constitution. The attempts to camouflage this as a "Catholic" issue or a "contraception" issue are ongoing in an attempt to divide us and force this violation of our basic liberties. A strong response is necessary to overcome the spin that if left unchecked, will ultimately allow this intrusion to stand and prompt even greater attacks on our liberties.

**Religious leaders of many faiths,** all across the country, have joined all 181 Catholic Bishops in denouncing the HHS Mandate as an assault on religious liberty and freedom of conscience. NOW it's time for direct, grassroots ACTIVISM — right here in the Tacoma area! People of conscience in our area are joining with others all over the country in staging a **NATIONWIDE RALLY** to take place coast to coast on March 23 at Noon.

OVER 100 CITIES AND TOWNS have signed on to join the Nationwide Rally for Religious Freedom — including Tacoma!

**YOU** are now invited to take part in this historic event:

**TO DATE** our peaceful Rally will include the following guest speakers:

Mark Meloscia (Democratic State Legislator) Rev. Wayne Perryman (Author and community leader)

**Shahram Hadian** (Pastor and Gubernatorial Candidate) **Rep. Jan Angel** (26<sup>th</sup> District State Representative)

Fr. Seraphim Majmudar (St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox)

Jim Anderson (Sacred Heart Radio)

The rally will also include hymns and prayers for our nation, as well as updates from other Rally sites across the country.

**JUST THINK OF IT! THOUSANDS** of Americans gathering at the same time **ALL OVER THE COUNTRY** to demand the reversal of this HHS Mandate! Let's make this rally **HUGE!** 

Please help get the word out for the TACOMA RALLY FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM on Friday, March 23rd at noon.

## Use every channel you have:

- Email
- Facebook
- Family Members
- Church Contacts
- Hand Written Letters
- Everything!