Opinion

News



A shopping mall in Lodz, Poland (Wikimedia Commons/Stevenlodz)



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Dana Milbank, at The Washington Post, joins the four liberal jurists in poking fun at the argument for the cake baker in Tuesday's oral arguments in the *Masterpiece Cakeshop* case. And, I admit that Justice Stephen Breyer's invoking Mies and Michelangelo was pretty funny. But mocking will not heal the divides in this country. I am sympathetic to both sides of this argument and thank God I am not a lawyer, still less a judge, charged with deciding such things.

The always important Working-Class Perspectives blog has an article this week by Lane Windham that reminds us not every woman who has been harassed by a powerful male works in Hollywood or Washington: Hundreds of thousands of restaurant and hotel workers experience harassment, too. And she calls for solidarity across class lines in the #MeToo campaign that is thankfully, if belatedly, changing the mores of America's workplaces.

Heather Long, also at WaPo, shows how the tax reform bill in the Senate got worse — that is to say, more unequal — as it moved through the process, not less so. I am normally comforted when ideology suffers at the hands of interests, but in this case it is hard to choose!

Good news from Poland: They are phasing out shopping on Sunday! The legislation enjoys the support of both the vibrant labor movement in Poland and the Catholic Church. The Catholic Herald has the story. I only wish we could suspend shopping for the entire season of Advent, and that might restore the real sense of Christmas as a religious, not a commercial, event.

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At RNS, Mark Silk again displays his nose for hypocrisy, pointing out that the evangelical voters sticking by Roy Moore seem to be flouting at least one commandment, the eighth, although I think the sixth is involved too. (Silk refers to the ninth commandment, but we RCs count them differently.) Whichever commandment you choose, it is a healthy thing to see poseurs exposed and hypocrites debunked.

[Michael Sean Winters covers the nexus of religion and politics for NCR.]

Editor's note: Don't miss out on Michael Sean Winters' latest: Sign up to receive free newsletters, and we'll notify you when he publishes new Distinctly Catholic columns.