Opinion



What will President U.S. President Donald Trump say about immigration and The Wall during tonight's state of the union address? Pictured are three of Trump's eight border wall prototypes in 2017 along the U.S.- Mexico border in San Diego. (CNS photo/Mike Blake, Reuters)

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Will you be watching the State of the Union address tonight? Michael Sean Winters will have a full evaluation of President Trump's performance tomorrow morning. Until then, a couple of things for you to chew on:

- **Five things to watch for in Trump's State of the Union**
- Bloomberg News says: The state of the union is strong, U.S. President Donald Trump will presumably tell the country tonight. **The state of his legislative agenda is significantly weaker.**
- The Washington Post wants to know **What happened to the State of the Union address?** Originally, it helped the president and Congress deliberate.

For those of you looking for the rebuttals, look for:

- The official Democratic Rebuttal -- **Massachusetts Rep. Joe Kennedy III**, called a rising political star with a famous last name.
- A personal, independent rebuttal -- **Sen. Bernie Sanders** Are you still feeling the Bern?
- And the Spanish-language rebuttal -- **Elizabeth Guzman,** a Democrat, freshman from Virginia's House of Delegates

This is Catholic Schools Week and we have a few stories to offer on that theme this week:

- **School vouchers are not a bail-out for Catholic institutions, proponents say**
- **Loyola's free e-textbook brings environmental ethics to classes worldwide**

The Russia Probe: As prosecutors seek an interview with President Trump, his Republican allies in Congress are trying to raise doubts about the inquiry. **6 things to know about the fight over Rep. Devin Nunes' secret memo**

Chile court clears ex-bishop of sex crime charges A Chilean appeals court ruled Jan. 26 there wasn’t enough evidence of a crime committed by the Rev. Marco Antonio Ordenes Fernandez, who resigned as bishop of the far-northern city of Iquique in 2012.

Time to rehabilitate Teilhard de Chardin? I've learned from Heidi Schlumpf, author of this article, that she has quite a few emails asking how to sign the petition mentioned in the Teilhard de Chardin story. We've added a note with the link to the petition in that story.

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This month, Global Sisters Report The Life panelists consider discuss how the unique charisms of their particular congregations are reflected in their individual ministries. **Being "neighbor." Preaching truth. Accompanying. Practicing radical hospitality. Proclaiming the Word. Engaging in ministries of leadership or education.**

Canberra, Australia -- The government wants lobbyists and representatives of foreign governments to be listed on a new register as part of its push to crack down on espionage and political interference. **The Aussie Catholic bishops say the law is so broadly written that priests and religious would have to register as agents of the Vatican.**

Two takes on this one: Vatican, eager for China ties, **asks 'underground' bishops to step aside** And read: Cardinal Joseph Zen, the outspoken 86-year-old former bishop of Hong Kong, says **Vatican is 'selling out' Catholic Church to China**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced Tuesday that **it will end free supplies of food and water in Puerto Rico this week** as the island's supermarkets and other businesses reopen following Hurricane Maria

Christin Tomy, a Dominican Sister of Sinsinawa, Wisconsin, offers these **"Millennial musings."**

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Or reflect on **Pencil Preaching by Pat Marrin**. Every morning Pat Marrin breaks open the Word with a pencil sketch and a short meditation.
