Opinion



by Heidi Schlumpf

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Billy Graham, the nation's most prominent evangelist and preacher, has died at the age of 99.

As if the tax cuts that favor the wealthy weren't enough, President Trump's budget proposals would really hurt working and poor Americans.

Phyllis Zagano gives a brief history lesson about the NRA and urges Parkland students to stop the gun lobby. This week's Parish Roundup includes news about a local parish that is praying for victims and survivors of the deadly school shooting.

The Colombian diocese of Cucuta is helping to feed hungry Venezuelans who are crossing the border to find work and food in the wake of the country's economic collapse.

Fr. Thomas Reese, who serves on the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, defends Pope Francis' China policy, noting that Vatican negotiators must make the best of a bad situation.

A lesbian couple in Texas is suing the federal government and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops because they were refused the chance to foster an

unaccompanied refugee child.

Call to Action's national executive director praises the meetings between Lincoln Bishop James Conley and excommunicated CTA members, but says the proposed solution for lifting the excommunication falls short.

Opinion:

The bishops' amicus brief in an upcoming Supreme Court case is not about giving money to Planned Parenthood but about the church's long-time support of laborers' right to organize, argues Michael Sean Winters.

NCR Vatican Correspondent Joshua McElwee has co-edited a volume of 54 essays about Pope Francis. Three mini excerpts of *A Pope Francis Lexicon* are available here .

Soul Seeing columnist Michael Leach is doing his duty by taking care of his wife who suffers from Alzheimer's, but they have been the best years of his life.

Listen up!

ICYMI: Last week's NCR in Conversation podcast had a Lenten theme, with Sr. Nancy Sylvester discussing the practice of contemplation.

How is your Lent going so far? Try these Lent resources:

- Start your day inspired with daily Scripture reflections. Join NCR's sister publication, Celebration, for **Daily Bread**, a series of short reflections written by four authors who meet regularly to share the readings.
- Or reflect on **Pencil Preaching by Pat Marrin**. Every morning Pat Marrin breaks open the Word with a pencil sketch and a short meditation.
- We hope we can enhance your prayer and reflection over these holy days using Sunday commentaries, articles, art and graphics from Celebration as well as from our sister publications, National Catholic Reporter and Global Sister Report. **Visit all the resources on the Celebration page.**

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