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by NCR Staff

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Wednesday, April 4, 2018, was the 50th anniversary of the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. While King was at the helm of the civil rights movement in the 1960s, Catholic Trappist monk, writer, and activist Thomas Merton was promoting nonviolence through his own writing.

On the show today:

- Patricia Lefevere has contributed to NCR since 1975. She is based in New Jersey.
- Alex Mikulich is a Catholic social ethicist and activist based in New Orleans.

Background reading:

- [Merton and King were spiritual brothers who never had a chance to meet](#), writes Lefevere.
- Perspective from Alex Mikulich: [We need King's revolution of love](#).
- Michael Sean Winters writes: [50 years ago, we lost a great American and a genuine Christian prophet](#).
- In 2016, John Gehring of Faith in Public Life wrote about [Catholic identity and the struggle for racial justice](#).
- [Thomas Merton's letters were a call for white atonement](#), writes Mikulich.

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