Opinion
News



by Dennis Coday

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John Carr, director of Georgetown University's Initiative on Catholic Social Thought in Public Life, and Kim Daniels, who formerly worked as a communications adviser at the U.S. bishops' conference, convened a three-day conference of 80 or so Catholic leaders, clerical and lay, to explore the question: What role can Catholic social teaching play in bringing together a divided nation? NCR was there.

Julie Bourbon covered a public panel and filed this report: **Religious leaders discuss overcoming polarization through dialogue, dispelling fear**

Michael Sean Winters attended the conference and writes about it this morning: **Ending polarization takes getting into rabbit holes**

Bourbon covered another event Carr hosted last month: **Georgetown panel debates faith and the Republican Party**

Foreign policy will be on center stage for the next week or so, starting with the G-7 meeting in Canada today and the Trump-Kim summit in Singapore next week. Some offerings in that vein.

U.S. leader hopes to force more favorable trade terms but other states resolved to stop him. **Donald Trump shows no sign of compromise as he flies in for G7 summit**

Not matter which way it goes, **North Korea summit is a signature moment for Trump and his challenge to the foreign policy establishment**

What's happening at the State Department? **Pompeo’s Pledge to Lift Hiring Freeze at State Department Hits Big Snag** Diplomats who welcomed the new secretary of state are now feeling let down.

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Which leads us into this offering from Global Sisters Report's Chris Herlinger: **How would foreign policy change if women held the reins of diplomacy?**

Robert Reich asks: **Is Trump pushing America towards a second civil war?**

And speaking of war, Catholic peace activist Kathy Kelly reports from the front lines of our still unsolved adventure: **Afghans, Parched for Water, March for Peace**

The Catholic Legal Immigration Network Inc., known as CLINIC, held its annual meeting in Tucson, Arizona. "Perspectives on Border Life" told stories from multiple perspectives: None of the stories were pretty. **Border-crossers face ICE 'intimidation,' brutal heat, tensions**

And it's not just the border regions living n fear. Did you read about the ICE raid on a landscaping business in Sandusky, Ohio? **After raid, Ohio bishops says immigration system contributes to suffering**

NCR's Peter Feuerherd filed this report: **As fear permeates immigrant communities, US bishops' responses vary**

So many 50th anniversary events this year. One revival NCR is following is that of Martin Luther King's Poor People's Campaign. **Poor People's Campaign turns its attention to health care, environment**

This morning the Vatican released a preparatory paper for the 2019 special assembly of the Synod of Bishops of the Amazon. It notes that the church's ministry in the nine-nation region is overextended and calls for consideration of "new ways" **to allow laypeople "better and more frequent access to the Eucharist."** We'll be watching that closely.

And finally, the media reporter for Reuters caught up with our film critic, Sr. Rose Pacatte and filed this report: **Sex to superheroes: Sister Rose shepherds Catholics through Hollywood movies**

Have you been inspired by Pope Francis' exhortation **Gaudete et Exsultate ("Rejoice and Be Glad")** to join **the journey of 'small holiness'**, NCR and Celebration have the resources to help:

- 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.