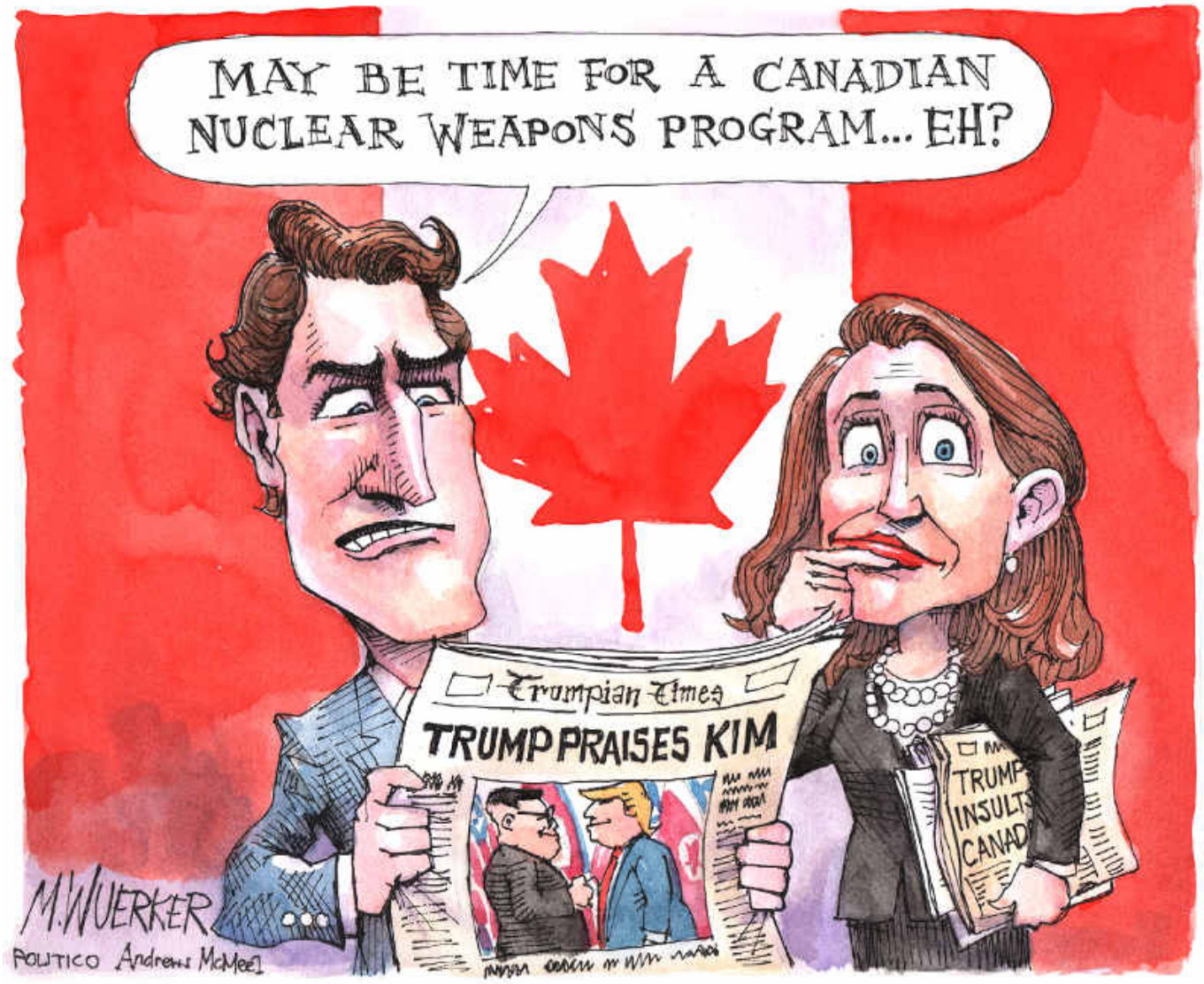
Opinion

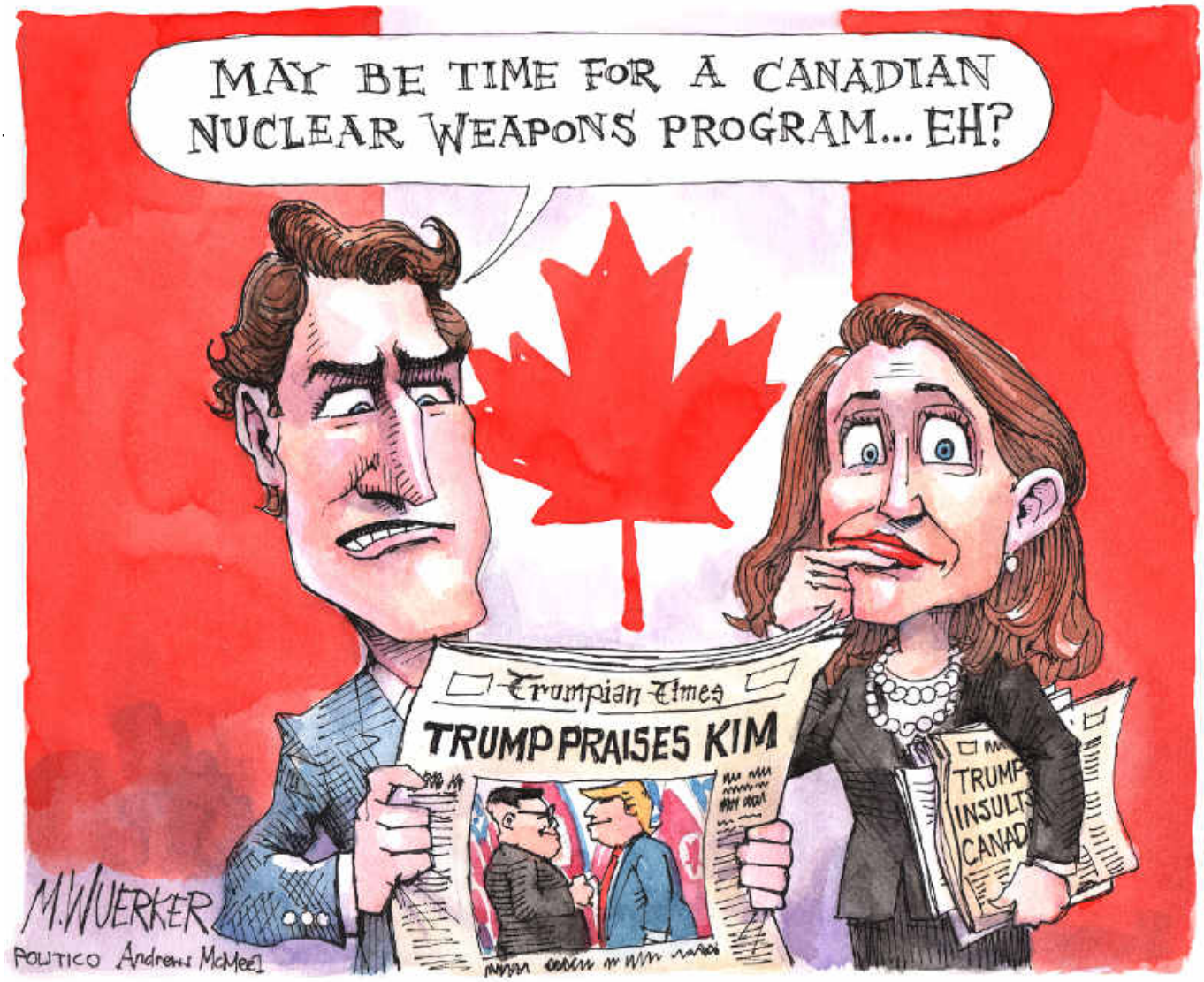


by Dennis Coday

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[For more Editorial cartoons, click here.]

NCR staff writer Brian Roewe was with the U.S. bishops' conference in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this week. Some highlights from that meeting:

Some bishops had called for a completely fresh re-write of their quadrennial guide to participation in the poloitical process, to better reflect the current political climate. Most declined that challenge voting instead **supplement rather than redraft and reissue Faithful Citizenship guide**. (This article is a total update from the story we posted yeterday, so check it out. You might say that -- unlike Faithful Citizenship -- our story has been revised and reissued. ;)

The bishops began their spring assembly decrying Trump administration's immigration policies**US bishops condemn separating families at border**

They also made incremental changes to the Dallas Charter, their guiding document on addressing sexual abuse of minors by clergy: **Expanded background checks among changes to child protection charter**

Michael Sean Winters wasn't physcially in Florida, but he had his finger on the pulse of the meeting:

- **On immigration and 'faithful citizenship,' US bishops avoid the challenge**
- **US bishops need to be shepherds amid deportations, demonizations**
- **Democracy's state demands that bishops update 'Faithful Citizenship' document**

NCR has been following the immigration issue closely since before Donald Trump came to office. Here's a round of our most recent reporting: **Families Separated at the Border**

Brownsville, Texas -- **Inside Casa Padre, the converted Walmart where the U.S. is holding nearly 1,500 immigrant children**

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Archbishop Luis Ladaria, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, stirred up some water when he write in L'Osservatore Romano last month **reaffirming the Catholic Church's ban on the ordination of women as priests**, writing in a new article that the teaching has a "definitive character" and "is a truth belonging to the deposit of faith." Reactions were swift to come, **Advocates dismayed by reaffirming ban on women priests**, with a great many finding Ladaria's arguments not only unconvincing but frankly repetitive of views refuted many times over.

I dug into the NCR archives, and found a couple of gems from the U.S. bishops' conference meeting, which I wrote about here: **Ban on women priests didn't seem settled teaching in 1992** Sr. Christine Schenk went a lot deeper than I did,

digging into ancient texts and archeology. She found Vatican statements on women and ordination **ahistorical and biblically naive. It is embarrassing.** We've got more to come on this topic next week, so stay tuned.

Roman Catholic Woman Priest celebrates 10 years of ministry in Winona, Minnesota. **"It's really humbling when I think of the good things that have happened in these 10 years. It's just a blessing."**

Dr. Gwen L. DuBois, president of Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility, says that\ **North Korea shouldn't have nukes — and neither should we**

An interesting piece from Smithsonian magazine:**The History of Black Catholics in America** The Black Catholic Movement reinvigorated the church, with liturgical innovation, new preaching styles and activist scholarship.

Chilean Police Raid Offices Of Catholic Church In Sex Abuse Scandal

Is this true? **The bishops want more control over your health care?**

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.