Opinion



by Dennis Coday

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Breaking News this morning: **Pope revises catechism to say death penalty is 'inadmissible'** and he ommits the church to working toward its abolition worldwide

Francis broached the idea of changing the catechism last October at a conference marking the 25th anniversary of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, where he said **The death penalty is 'contrary to the Gospel.'**

A related story: **Pennsylvania state commission scrutinizes flaws in death penalty** The national network Conservatives Concerned About the Death Penalty applauded the report for addressing the "many areas of concern to growing numbers of conservatives."

Global Sisters Report has been chronicling the refugee experience in a series of stories called **Seeking Refuge**. Here is the latest report in that series: **For Hondurans, staying home is more perilous than taking the migrant path**

Read the GSR editoral about the series: **Sisters' refugee ministries light the way forward**

When it comes to sex abuse and the Catholic church, in so many ways, it feels like 2002 all over again. But instead of Boston as the epicenter, its all over the place:

- Albany, N.Y. -- **Priest alleges harassment by McCarrick, sexual assault by fellow seminarians**
- Adelaide, Australia -- **Australians express relief at Archbishop Wilson's resignation**
- Washington, D.C. -- **Bishops conference must address leaders' 'moral failures of judgment,' president says**
- Santiago, Chile -- **'There's going to be a raid':** A Chilean prosecutor forces Catholic Church to give up secrets

In fact, in Chile **Catholic Church faces reckoning as sex abuse scandal widens**

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Britain’s highest court has ruled that doctors can withdraw food and fluid from patients who are in a vegetative state or minimally conscious without seeking permission from judges. **The ruling is morally wrong**, says Auxiliary Bishop John Wilson of Westminster.

Harare, Zimbabwe -- Churches and faith communities campaigned over the past few months that peace would prevailed in the run-up to and during the national elections in Zimbabwe. **An outbreak of violence Wednesday suggests that there is more to do to heal this "broken" society.**

Under Trump and Putin, a strange alliance gets stranger. The unexpected relationship between U.S. evangelicals and Russian Orthodox

The confirmation hearing for Illinois State SEn. Kyle McCarter, nominated as ambassador to Kenya, **was one tough job interview as he was questioned** about his faith-based voting record on gay rights, his stance on refugees and a nasty Election Day tweet about Hillary Clinton.

Catholic Relief Services has a significant role in this news report: **U.S. Palestinian Aid Cuts Hit Programs Providing Food And Health For Gaza's Poorest**

Pope Francis' exhortation **Gaudete et Exsultate ("Rejoice and Be Glad")** has inspired many. NCR and Celebration have the resources to help you on your**journey of 'small holiness'**.

- 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.