Opinion



by Dennis Coday

View Author Profile

dcoday@ncronline.org
Follow on Twitter at @dcoday

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With Kavanaugh Confirmed, **Both Sides Of Abortion Debate Gear Up For Battle** Planned Parenthood has a new strategy designed to prepare for the possibility of a nation without the federal protections for abortion rights outlined in the 1973 *Roe* v. *Wade* decision.

Once upon a time, Republicans wanted nothing more than to reform Medicare. A look at how that's changed. **How eight years – and President Trump – have changed the GOP's tune on Medicare**

The abuse crisis continues to unfold: **Washington Cardinal Wuerl resigns, ending influential tenure in wake of abuse report**

Michael Sean Winters says **Wuerl was hounded from office for becoming face of abuse crisis**

In an action to be more transparent, the 15 Catholic dioceses in Texas **will release the names of clergy who were credibly accused of sexually abusing a minor.**

The Roman Catholic bishops of the Nashville and Knoxville dioceses are speaking out against the looming execution of death row inmate Edmund Zagorski. **The Roman Catholic bishops of the Nashville and Knoxville dioceses are speaking out against the looming execution of death row inmate Edmund Zagorski."**

Two cases now before the Supreme Court: **Supreme Court examines dementia, health issues in death penalty cases**

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A federal judge in San Francisco struck down a lawsuit Thursday by the American Civil Liberties Union that claimed U.S. Health and Human Services violated the separation of church and state by allocating millions of dollars to faith-based groups that took in unaccompanied immigrant minors but refused to give them birth control or access to abortions. Filed in 2016, the lawsuit alleged groups like **the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops made it difficult or impossible for the minors, some of whom were raped or victims of sex trafficking, to obtain birth control.**

Pope Francis will canonize seven saints this weekend. The headliners are Archbishop Oscar Romero and Pope Paul VI. Read NCRonline.org this weekend for live reports. Meanwhile there is this:

- An NCR editoral calls Romero and Paul **Dangerous saints for desperate times** "Remarkably, these two saints shared a martyrdom that built the bridge that supports a single trajectory, inspired by the Holy Spirit, that will renew the church and reveal again the mystery of Jesus as the engine of history."

- **Canonization gives Blessed Catherine Kasper 'much different impact' on church**
- By veteran journalist Gene Palumbo: **Archbishop Óscar Romero: setting the record straight**

Nuns on the Bus take a "sea to shining sea" tour of the USA to discuss tax policy. **They left the sandy beaches of Santa Monica Oct. 8.** They aim to be at Mar-a-Lago, Florida the weekend before Election Day. Here are the first to dispatches:

- **Nuns on the Bus 2018 travelogue: Off to create action**
- **Nuns on the Bus 2018: A kaleidoscope of faces for the first day**

Read daily dispatches from the road here: Nuns on the Bus 2018

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.

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'**.