

## [Opinion](#)

by Mick Forgey

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*Our team of copy editors reads and posts most of what you see on the websites for National Catholic Reporter and Global Sisters Report (the NCR project focusing on women religious). The Copy Desk Daily highlights recommended news and opinion articles that have crossed our desks on their way to you.*

The recent footage from Venezuela was awful in its brutality and weight. In the clip from Caracas, a military vehicle rams into protesters who support opposition leader Juan Guaidó. Guaidó claims he is the rightful Venezuelan president, not leader Nicolás Maduro. The Trump administration, backing Guaidó, had used economic sanctions against Maduro. Jesse Remedios reports on the issues and consequences that surround these tactics: [Sanctions against Venezuela: diplomatic tool or indiscriminate weapon?](#)

Vatican correspondent Joshua J. McElwee is on the ground covering Pope Francis' trip to Bulgaria and North Macedonia. You'll find all his reporting here: [Francis in Bulgaria and North Macedonia](#)

NCR has started its three-part series on Call to Action, an organization that has been advocating for church reform for some four decades. National correspondent Heidi Schlumpf begins with a look at how Call to Action has faced the challenges of membership and income: [Call to Action — the 'loyal left opposition' — reorganizes amid an uncertain future](#)

[Many gifts, one Spirit:](#) Denise Simeone writes: "Ministry in a parish, even when inspired by the Holy Spirit, still requires dedicated, hard work, real skills, professional

practices and good process to help staffs successfully administer a local church, both the buildings and the people." Based on her parish ministry experience, she offers areas for reflection.

**Links for 5/7/19:** When Michael Sean Winters includes an Onion link in his political news and opinion roundup, well, that is a link I'm going to click.

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