

Morning Briefing

Dennis Coday | Sep. 5, 2012 NCR Today

Washington state's four Catholic bishops, while professing to abhor "bias" and "rejection" directed at gays and lesbians, **[have delivered a pastoral statement calling Referendum 74 a threat to religious liberty.](#)** [1] Ref. 74, on the November ballot, would make Washington the seventh state to legalize marriage between partners of the same sex.

DULUTH, Minnesota -- **[Catholic priest donated \\$1000 to gay marriage](#)** [2]. The Diocese of Duluth, where Lambert is stationed, has donated \$50,000 to support the traditional marriage amendment.

[Pope says Cardinal Martini's love for Bible guided his life](#) [3]

[Translated final interview with Martini](#) [4]

Philadelphia -- **[Judge postpones rape trial of priest, Catholic school teacher](#)** [5]

Rally at DNC: the Coalition for Liberty & Justice **[Call "defend individual conscience on issues of marriage rights and access to reproductive health:](#)** [6], coalition includes Catholics for Choice, the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, the National Council of Jewish Women, and the Charlotte-based Freedom Center for Social Justice,

Election 2012 -- **[Republicans counter-program with Catholic voters](#)** [7]

New Zealand: **[Catholic Church focuses on food security for Social Justice Week](#)** [8]

Franciscan friar Father Benedict Groeschel **[has stepped down as host of EWTN's Sunday Night Prime television show](#)** [9] following his apology for making **[comments about the sexual abuse of minors](#)** [10].

NCR's Michael Sean Winters writes a letter: **[Dear Democratic Catholics](#)** [11]. Last week he **[wrote to Republican Catholics](#)** [12].

[Is the study discounting the benefits of organic food likely to change your eating habits?](#) [13]

NCR's sister publication, Celebration, posts reflections on each day's Scripture reading. Here's a link: **[celebrationpublications.org/dailybread.](http://celebrationpublications.org/dailybread)** [14] You may want to bookmark it. It's a great way to begin the day.

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Links:

[1] <http://blog.seattlepi.com/seattlepolitics/2012/09/04/catholic-bishops-gay-marriage-threatens-religious-liberty/>

- [2] <http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/event/article/id/241865/group/homepage/>
- [3] <http://www.catholicnews.com/data/stories/cns/1203696.htm>
- [4] <http://ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/translated-final-interview-martini>
- [5] <http://www.cnn.com/2012/09/04/justice/philadelphia-priest-trial/index.html>
- [6] <http://www.rhrealitycheck.org/article/2012/09/04/progressive-groups-call-on-democrats-to-support-religious-freedom-0>
- [7] <http://www.politico.com/blogs/urns-haberman/2012/09/republicans-counterprogram-with-catholic-voters-134447.html>
- [8] <http://www.voxy.co.nz/national/catholic-church-focuses-food-security-social-justice-week/5/133895>
- [9] <http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/father-groeschel-steps-down-from-ewtn-show/>
- [10] <http://ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/note-fr-groeschel-it-wasnt-kids-fault>
- [11] <http://ncronline.org/node/32029>
- [12] <http://ncronline.org/blogs/distinctly-catholic/dear-republican-catholics>
- [13] <http://minnesota.publicradio.org/collections/special/columns/todays-question/archive/2012/09/is-the-study-discounting-the-benefits-of-organic-food-likely-to-change-your-eating-habits.shtml>
- [14] <http://celebrationpublications.org/dailybread>