

# NATIONAL CATHOLIC REPC

THE INDEPENDENT NEWS SOURCE

Published on *National Catholic Reporter* (<https://www.ncronline.org>)

February 18, 2018 at 4:04pm

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John L. Allen Jr. was staff writer, Vatican correspondent and senior correspondent for NCR from 1997 until 2014 when he joined Cruxnow.org.

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**Source URL (retrieved on 02/19/2018 - 8:13am):** <https://www.ncronline.org/authors/john-l-allen-jr?page=0%2C1>