

# NATIONAL CATHOLIC REPC

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

March 19, 2018 at 9:04am

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## **John L. Allen Jr.**

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 03/19/2018 - 7:30pm):** <https://www.ncronline.org/authors/john-l-allen-jr?page=1%2C21>