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Morning Briefing

by Dennis Coday

NCR Today

Republicans, Democrats play political dare ahead of more fiscal talks this week

At least 3 European countries summon ambassadors over new Israel settlements

Missouri Bishop Finn's Conviction Leaves Clergy Divided

United Kingdom -- Two senior bishops, one Anglican and one Catholic, have written a public letter to Foreign Secretary William Hague **urging fresh thinking about Israel-Palestine.**

Manila, Philippines -- On the eve of President Benigno Aquino III's meeting with lawmakers over the Reproductive Health bill, a Catholic Church official on Sunday called on pro-life groups **to use the "weapons" of prayer and fasting against the measure.**

Manila, Philippines -- Bishops want congress to use roll call vote, not voice vote **when voting on the the Reproductive Health bill.** People should know who voted what way, they say.

Walter Sullivan, the former Bishop for the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, **has been diagnosed with liver cancer.**

Springfield, Mass. -- The Rev. Douglas J. Fisher -- a former Roman Catholic priest who was convinced by friends to return to the ministry by becoming a cleric in the Episcopal Church -- **has been consecrated as the ninth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts.**

Calgary, Canada -- **Historic links remain 100 years after birth of Calgary Catholic Diocese**

New rules aim to beef up Catholic identity of church charities

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

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