

# NATIONAL CATHOLIC REPO

THE INDEPENDENT NEWS SOURCE

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## Celebrating 50 years of National Catholic Reporter



**In 1964 professional journalists, not church-paid public relations personnel, founded *National Catholic Reporter*.**

It was the first newspaper of its kind, embracing the revolutionary idea that Catholics need access to news of the church in order to be active participants and strong voices on important issues.

Fifty years later, we continue to publish our biweekly print newspaper and have expanded our online reach to more than 4 million readers around the world.

This year we celebrate the 50th anniversary of our founding with exciting events, special publications and

contests. We invite you to be a part of this exciting year!

## NCR's 50th Anniversary Issue



This 60-page keepsake issue summarizes news from each year of NCR's existence, packaged as the newspaper looked at the time. Copies are available to purchase. [Learn more](#) [1].

## National Catholic Reporter at Fifty: The Story of the Pioneering Paper and Its Editors



Former editor Arthur Jones tells the NCR story from its founding during the Second Vatican Council through the present. This book focuses on editors and key themes in the paper's history: race and poverty, peace/foreign policy, women's issues, sexuality, and the church/papacy.

Available in hardcover and eBook. [Order now](#) [2].

## Anniversary Events

We'll celebrate throughout our anniversary year with conferences and talks across the United States. Visit our [events page](#) [3] to see if we're coming to your area.

## Explore the Archives

# On the line in Selma with a Sister-demonstrator

...not until we could find a site to be the point. It would not be wise to walk back to the South, we were told. It was a great, sunny, peaceful day with the promise that we got into the car, took us to the bus, and we prayed that we wouldn't be stopped. We walked toward the bus, and we got out of the car at the hospital. I thought the driver had his gun. "They have been here for a long time, you see," he said. "The tank is in the middle of the street. If we could get back into the project today that night. Within a few minutes after sunset at the hospital we were visited by Father Collins from the Diocese of Kansas City, Kansas. We greeted joyfully, made a few announcements on the morning's happenings, then headed for St. Elizabeth's cemetery for a special service with the priest and sisters. Some who disappeared at our being in the hospital, the sisters and those who came to watch our service. Many returned to the hospital. We had been told that we had been invited to be here all night.

FRANKLY, our first desire to believe had been changed. There seemed to be little organization and lots of leaders. We had been invited to be here all night. Each group was to pick a "representative" who would not march but who would take out of hand and publicity if we were arrested. This was a hard time. Finally, Father Baines, whom we had regarded as the unofficial leader of the Kansas City group, took the job of official spokesman. The two Maryknoll Sisters, because several nights were sleeping in the hospital and they had a hospital to run in Kansas City, decided that they would not march. I admitted the fact of this for I knew such was looking to me. My Italian came in to give us some last-minute advice. I don't think I have ever seen such a magnificent leader. The priest who carried the cross, another sister and another was arrested. When they were released, I remember I remember a young man, he looked, "If you keep your dignity and a little sense of humor, you will find a way of surviving even your return to prison." I would not be angry with anyone who had that the general non-violent movement was the message of Christianity.

It occurred to me how much like we were the demonstrators here in Selma. We were in the hospital at the moment. We were all in Selma, we were here, we were here.



Sister Judith Wiley and Sister David Sherman who were stepped up to be a messenger during the demonstration in Selma, are mentioned here in the Kansas City newspaper. Sister Judith Sherman, who is a Peace Officer sister who also works the day in Kansas. Sister David Sherman was chosen by a night shift nursing team as she stood at the front line. Father demonstrators gathered for some talking and she moved immediately back into her position to be with the group. She had more than a moment and then moved away. A SNCC leader said, "The life we have more gets their sympathy."

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looking back through our fifty years of archived issues.

[Read a sampling of old articles](#) [4], as selected by the editors of *Global Sisters Report*.

## The next step forward: 50 more years

You, our dedicated readers and donors, are an important key to NCR's longevity. We simply would not have made it this far without your generous support through the years.

As we look forward to our next 50 years, we want to ensure that future generations have access to the independent Catholic journalism NCR has so consistently provided during our first 50 years. We ask your help in making this happen with a [generous gift to NCR](#) [5]!

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### Links:

- [1] <https://www.ncronline.org/ncr-s-50th-anniversary-issue>
- [2] <https://rowman.com/page/4F14NCR50/>
- [3] <http://ncronline.org/events>
- [4] <http://globalsistersreport.org/series/archives>
- [5] <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/ncr>

Throughout this special year, we'll be