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June 4, 2018

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A busy, newsy weekend here at NCR. It began late in the day Friday and kept on going. Here a couple stories you don't want to miss

Friday afternoon, the U.S. bishops conference released its annual report on the status of diocesan responses to clergy sex abuse and implementation of protection programs.

### [\*\*US bishops' annual abuse audit highlights concerns about complacency\*\*](#)

"While progress continues to be made, there are worrisome signs for the future revealed in this year's audit that cannot be ignored," wrote the chairman of the bishops' National Review Board.

Later came this breaking news story: [\*\*Catholic University of America faculty vote raises stakes in battle with president\*\*](#) Michael Sean Winters followed with this commentary: [\*\*Saving the Catholic University of America: The cardinals need to talk.\*\*](#)

On Saturday, the Vatican announced: [\*\*Pope appoints first layperson to head Pontifical Lateran University\*\*](#)

Sunday we learned: [\*\*Francis appoints administrator to replace Australian archbishop found guilty of not reporting abuse\*\*](#) Here's some back ground on that story: [\*\*Australian archbishop convicted of abuse cover-up takes leave\*\*](#)

Also on Sunday came this story: A Chilean priest who suffered abuse and a priest who ministers to survivors met with Pope Francis for more than four hours. [\*\*Chilean priests say they felt welcomed, listened to by pope\*\*](#)

Other news we're following:

Des Moines, Iowa -- [\*\*Eddie Mauro, Democratic candidate for the 3rd District, influenced by a Catholic nun\*\*](#) "She taught me about social justice. ... She taught me about tolerance and understanding.

St. Louis, Missouri -- [\*\*Priest's assignment to St. Louis parish rescinded over parent concerns about past allegations\*\*](#)

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In the face of spiritual harm, loss of work and civil rights, and physical violence endured by LGBTQ persons, Jamie Manson asks, are Francis' words to Juan Carlos Cruz adequate? [\*\*For LGBTQ Catholics, there is little hope in hearsay\*\*](#)

[\*\*Nepal village's preschool prepares children, parents for formal education\*\*](#)

[\*\*Sisters in Vietnam refuse government order to turn over convent lands\*\*](#)

Have you been inspired by Pope Francis' exhortation [\*\*Gaudete et Exsultate \("Rejoice and Be Glad"\)\*\*](#) to join [\*\*the journey of 'small holiness'\*\*](#), NCR and Celebration have the resources to help:

- Start your day inspired with daily Scripture reflections. Join NCR's sister publication, Celebration, for [\*\*Daily Bread\*\*](#), a series of short reflections written by four authors who meet regularly to share the readings.
- Or reflect on [\*\*Pencil Preaching by Pat Marrin\*\*](#). Every morning Pat Marrin breaks open the Word with a pencil sketch and a short meditation.