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Handy guide to Vatican investigation of women religious

by Dennis Coday

NCR Today

The Leadership Conference of Women Religious, umbrella organization for most U.S. women religious, opens their annual convocation tomorrow in New Orleans. *NCR* editor Tom Fox is there to give us on the ground reports. Check this web site regularly for updates.

The meeting is of special interest this year because the conference and its membership are facing two investigations by the Vatican. It's a story *NCR* has been reporting since it broke in January. Here's a handy guide to *NCR* reporting and commentary:

News reports:

Vatican, U.S. women religious tensions go back decades A timeline

Women religious study to include 'soundness of doctrine' Report on the *Instrumentum Laboris*, or "working paper," which explains in greater detail the focus of the Apostolic Visitation.

Vatican begins study of US women religious *NCR*'s first report on this topic, dated January 30, 2009.

Vatican women religious study outlined Additional reporting by John L Allen Jr dated Feb. 3, 2009.

Vatican investigates U.S. women religious leadership An April 14, 2009 story about a separate investigation of the LCWR.

U.S. women religious study raising new concerns An updated from June 4, 2009

Some commentaries:

U.S. women religious leadership, at the crossroads Analysis by Ken Briggs, author a the book, *Double Crossed: Uncovering the Catholic Church?s Betrayal of American Nuns*.

'We did what the church asked us to do' By Dominican Sr. Anne Marie Mongoven

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Sisters delivered the church Vatican II promised An NCR editorial

We've given birth to a new form of religious life by Sr. Sandra M. Schneiders

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