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Morning Briefing

Dennis Coday | Jul. 25, 2012 NCR Today

Syria -- The clamorous heart of Aleppo, the ancient city with its cobbled streets and mazy bazaars, fell silent on Tuesday **as residents there and across Syria?s sprawling commercial capital fled the streets and cowered indoors, dreading the rat-tat-tat of machine gun fire and the echoing roar of government helicopters.** [1]

Christian Bale Visits Shooting Victims [2]
'Batman' Actor Attends Memorial Service

Austria Church Mounts Billboard Search for Priests [3]

Catholic Relief Services: **Funding for humanitarian aid did not violate church teaching** [4]

So who is the funniest Catholic in the Western world: New York Cardinal Timothy Dolan or Comedy Central?s Stephen Colbert? **we may finally get an answer to that urgent question** [5]when the cardinal and the comedian team up for a panel on faith and humor this September at Fordham University in the Bronx, N.Y.

Complex Emotions Over First American Indian Saint [6]

Nearly all of the ice sheet covering Greenland's surface melted over several days in July **-- something scientists have never seen before.** [7]

Commentary -- **Why is NCAA taking sex abuse more seriously than Catholic Church?** [8]

Kansas City, Mo. -- **Catholic diocese dismissed from Jackson County priest abuse suit** [9] Jackson County judge says she struggled with decision but was bound by recent court rulings

NYC -- **Tempers bubble up at soda-ban hearing** [10], board that is expected to approve a partial ban of sales of large sugary drinks.

Recent announcement that Omaha, Nebr.-based, Jesuit-run Creighton University is teaming up with St. Joseph Hospital in Phoenix has prompted Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted **to re-affirm that he does not recognize St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center as a Catholic hospital** [11]

NCR's sister publication, Celebration, posts reflections on each day's Scripture reading. Here's a link: **celebrationpublications.org/dailybread.** [12]You may want to bookmark it. It's a great way to begin the day.

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Links:
[1] http://www.nytimes.com/2012/07/26/world/middleeast/ancient-aleppo-echoes-with-gunfire-as-war-reaches-its-cobbled-streets.html?pagewanted=all

[2] http://www.thedenverchannel.com/entertainment/31302350/detail.html
[3] http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/austria-church-mounts-billboard-search-priests-16845734#.UA_Mu5EvC2U
[4] http://ncronline.org/news/faith-parish/catholic-relief-services-funding-humanitarian-aid-did-not-violate-church-teaching
[5] http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/on-faith/cardinal-timothy-dolan-and-stephen-colbert-to-star-in-catholic-comedy-slam/2012/07/24/gJQAlfcM7W_story.html
[6] http://www.nytimes.com/2012/07/25/nyregion/complex-emotions-as-kateri-tekakwitha-is-named-a-saint.html?_r=1&pagewanted=all
[7] http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/18980361
[8] http://religion.blogs.cnn.com/2012/07/24/my-take-why-is-ncaa-taking-sex-abuse-more-seriously-than-catholic-church/
[9] http://www.kansascity.com/2012/07/24/3721022/catholic-diocese-dismissed-from.html
[10] http://www.crainsnewyork.com/article/20120725/HEALTH_CARE/120729938
[11] http://www.azcentral.com/business/articles/20120723phoenix-bishop-olmsted-reaffirms-st-joseph-hospital-decision.html
[12] http://celebrationpublications.org/dailybread