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Morning Briefing

Dennis Coday | Jul. 9, 2013 NCR Today

Breaking news: **Catholic Health Association can live with HHS mandate** [1]

Vatican asks Brazil for an extra €30m to help fund pope's visit [2]. Brazil, which has already contributed €47m, says no.

Pope to set up 'study group' to look into Vatican audits, cardinal says [3]

Kansas City, Mo. -- **Catholic diocese settles wrongful-death lawsuit during jury selection** [4] Diocese to pay $2.5 million, priest $2,500. As part of the settlement, the diocese will place a bench on the grounds of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church. On it will be the words: "A beautiful soul will never be forgotten. In loving memory of Brian Teeman."

Manila, Philippines -- **Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Socrates Villegas was elected president of the influential Catholic Bishops? Conference of the Philippines.** [5] He is a protégé of the late Cardinal Jaime Sin.

Obama reportedly ponders 'zero option' in Afghanistan. [6] No U.S. troops to be there after 2014.

Peru, Ill. -- For the seventh straight year, St. Joseph?s Catholic parish provided food and shelter for a group of **bicyclists riding across the United States for charity.** [7] Read more**:** **Bike & Build raises funds for affordable housing projects.** [8]

Albion, N.Y. -- **Nun receives jail time in larceny case** [9]. She allegedly stole $128,000 from churches to feed a gambling addiction.

Washington, Mo. -- **Hometown parishioners fawn over Cardinal Dolan.** [10]"We're blessed that he wasn't elected pope."

Singapore Catholic church to probe sex-abuse charges [11]

New Castle, Australia -- **Child abuse inquiry: Whistleblower's credibility questioned** [12]

Cheboygan, Mich. -- **Remains of 19th-century priest return home.** [13] In the 1860s, Fr. Philip Seraphin Zorn was at one point in charge of four missions and nine parishes in the Northern Lower Peninsula.

Not sure if we reported this earlier or not: **Roman Catholic Gay Priest Hookup Site** [14] said to be controlled by a fraternity of "homo-sensitive priests looking for like-minded priests."

New bishop prepares to lead El Paso Catholics [15]. He takes as his motto: "Paratum cor Meum," meaning "My heart is ready." (Psalm 57)

Pencil Preaching
Sketching open the Word each day

[16]Looking for an a little inspiration to begin your day? NCR's sister publication, Celebration, gives you two options, both based on the Scripture readings of the day:

Pencil Preaching **[16]** is blog that Celebration editor Pat Marrin combines scripture and sketching to reflect on the word.

Daily Bread [17] is a series short reflections, written by four authors who meet regularly to share the readings. Daily Bread is intended to help daily preachers and others who pray from the assigned scriptures each day to orient themselves to the Living Word addressed to the church in the world. It's a great way to begin the day.

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