

## Morning Briefing

Dennis Coday | Jan. 8, 2014 NCR Today

Former President of Ireland Mary McAleese: [Catholic Church ?in denial over homosexuality for decades?](#) [1] -- Urges former Cardinal Keith O'Brien -- who retired following allegations he had engaged in inappropriate sexual activity with men -- to tell his story. It ?could have been of great assistance to gay people.?

[Priests group hails McAleese comments on homosexuality in Church](#) [2]

Scotland -- [1,300-strong petition fights for suspended priest](#) [3]

England and Wales -- [Letter from LGBT Catholics to the Bishops' Conference](#) [4], a response to the conference's request for feedback from the laity in advance of the World Synod on Marriage and Family Life at the Vatican later this year.

Chicago -- In a settlement eight years in the making, [Chicago Catholics to See Letter on Abuse This Sunday](#) [5] (video)

Beaumont, Texas -- [Catholic diocese settles suit over abuse allegations](#) [6]

Kampala, Uganda -- [Catholic church prepares to celebrate the golden jubilee of the Uganda martyrs becoming saints](#) [7]

[Reese on CNN's 'Pope's popularity in Washington'](#) [8]

Newark, N.J. -- [Church assistant retires after 36 years](#) [9]

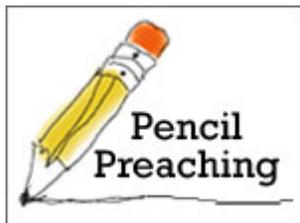
California -- [As Drought Deepens, Catholic Bishops Say 'Pray for Rain'](#) [10]

Mexico City, Mexico -- [In Chiapas, Mayans get Mass, sacraments in two of their languages](#) [11]

The Hague -- A Dutch Catholic bishop burned alive in 1937 by Japanese troops for protecting Chinese girls from rape [proposed as patron saint of sex abuse victims worldwide.](#) [12]

Rome -- Legionaries of Christ: [A scandal-hit Catholic religious movement whose founder was a sexual predator opens meeting for international members](#) [13]

Malaysia -- Criminal lawyers have questioned why a Catholic priest is being investigated for sedition. Priest had written that saying that the word "Allah" will continue to be used in Malaysia-language services in Malaysian Catholic churches.



[14]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](#)[14] is blog that Celebration editor Pat Marrin combines scripture and sketching to reflect on the word.



[Daily Bread](#) [15] 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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**Links:**

[1] <http://www.thejournal.ie/mary-mcaleese-catholic-church-homosexuality-1254023-Jan2014/>

[2] <http://www.newstalk.ie/Priests-Association-welcomes-McAleese-comments-on-homosexuality-in-Catholic-Church>

[3] <http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/1300-strong-petition-fights-for-suspended-priest.23120941>

[4] <http://www.ekkleisia.co.uk/node/19682>

[5] <http://www.nbcchicago.com/news/local/Chicago-Catholics-to-See-Letter-on-Abuse-This-Sunday-239117041.html>

[6] <http://setexasrecord.com/news/293246-catholic-diocese-settles-suit-over-abuse-allegations>

[7] <http://allafrica.com/stories/201401080389.html>

[8] <http://ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/reese-cnns-popes-popularity-washington>

[9] <http://www.newarkadvocate.com/article/20140108/COMMUNITIES02/301080006>

[10]

<https://www.google.com/search?hl=en&gl=us&tbm=nws&authuser=0&q=Catholic+parish&cc=3..43j43i53.375.1824.0.3048.13.6.0.0.0.1221.2385.1j1j1j6-1j1.5.0...0.0...1ac.1.SsIDWwRZDRY#authuser=0&gl=us&hl=en&q=Catholic+bishop&tbm=nws&>

<https://www.google.com/search?hl=en&gl=us&tbm=nws&authuser=0&q=Catholic+bishop&tbm=nws&>

[11] <http://www.catholicsentinel.org/main.asp?SectionID=2&SubSectionID=34&ArticleID=22587>

[12] <http://www.straitstimes.com/breaking-news/world/story/martyred-bishop-should-be-patron-saint-abuse-victims-church-20140106>

[13] <http://www.jacarandafm.com/post/scandal-tainted-catholic-religious-movement-under-reform/>

[14] <http://celebrationpublications.org/pencilpreaching>

[15] <http://celebrationpublications.org/dailybread>