NATIONAL CATHOLIC REPORTER DONATE NOW!
Published on *National Catholic Reporter* (http://ncronline.org)

Morning Briefing

Dennis Coday | Feb. 4, 2014 NCR Today

German bishops discuss family on the synod survey: **Most German Catholics disputed Church bans on birth control and premarital or gay sex and criticized rules barring the divorced from remarriage in church.** [1]

Syria 'to complete chemical weapon shipments by March' [2]

Washington -- **Catholic social ministers told, 'Serve, accompany, and defend the poor'** [3]

For Pope Francis: **A To-Do List on Women** [4]

Belleville, Ill., diocese to close five parishes [5]

Manchester, N.H. -- **Ex-Diocese official expected to plead guilty to stealing money from hospital, priest's estate** [6]. Ex-chancellor to see four years in state prison

Philippines -- **Bishops continue to push president on agrarian reforms** [7]

Canadian bishops urge government intervention on Israeli wall [8]

Pope's quotes: **the most urgent problem** [9]

This history of divorce and remarriage in the Roman Catholic church: **When the Church of Rome Forgave Second Marriages** [10]

A Church Divided Over Marriage Equality [11]. It's the Methodists, not the Catholics.

Pencil Preaching
Sketching open the Word each day

[12]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 **[12]** is blog that Celebration editor Pat Marrin combines scripture and sketching to reflect on the word.

Daily Bread [13] 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.

Source URL (retrieved on *05/06/2015 - 00:37*): http://ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/morning-briefing-1079

Links:
[1] http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/02/03/us-vatican-family-germany-idUKBREA121EH20140203
[2] http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-26028656
[3] http://ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/catholic-social-ministers-told-serve-accompany-and-defend-poor
[4] http://www.huffingtonpost.com/angela-bonavoglia/for-pope-francis-a-todo-l_b_4709129.html
[5] http://www.stltoday.com/lifestyles/faith-and-values/belleville-diocese-to-close-five-parishes/article_35df4783-726b-504c-86da-6f4389be4964.html
[6] http://www.unionleader.com/article/20140203/NEWS03/140209790/0/FRONTPAGE
[7] http://www.solarnews.ph/news/regional/2014/02/04/bishops-ask-for-carper-extension#.UvDkePtgrFY
[8] http://www.catholicregister.org/news/canada/item/17582-canadian-bishops-urge-government-intervention-on-israeli-wall
[9] http://ncronline.org/blogs/francis-chronicles/popes-quotes-most-urgent-problem
[10] http://chiesa.espresso.repubblica.it/articolo/1350707?eng=y
[11] http://www.newyorker.com/online/blogs/newsdesk/2014/01/a-church-divided-over-marriage-equality.html?utm_source=www&utm_medium=tw&utm_campaign=20140129
[12] http://celebrationpublications.org/pencilpreaching
[13] http://celebrationpublications.org/dailybread