

## [Opinion](#)



Filipinos are seen in a 2013 photo showing gratitude and waving to the crew of a U.S. Navy aircraft after receiving aid from U.S. Agency for International Development in the remote village of Guiuan, Philippines, following one of the most powerful typhoons ever recorded. (OSV News/Reuters/Wolfgang Rattay)



Heidi Schlumpf

[View Author Profile](#)

[hschlumpf@ncronline.org](mailto:hschlumpf@ncronline.org)

Follow on Twitter at [@heidischlumpf](https://twitter.com/heidischlumpf)



Daniel P. Horan

[View Author Profile](#)



David Dault

[View Author Profile](#)

## [\*\*Join the Conversation\*\*](#)

Send your thoughts to *Letters to the Editor*. [Learn more](#)

February 13, 2025

[Share on Facebook](#)[Share on Twitter](#)[Email to a friend](#)[Print](#)

National Catholic Reporter senior correspondent Heidi Schlumpf, columnist Daniel Horan and David Dault continue Season 16 of "The Francis Effect."

Heidi, Daniel and David look at the effects the recent attacks on USAID have had on charities and nongovernmental organizations — especially in the Catholic world. Then they look at the "armchair theology of JD Vance," recent comments made by the vice president about Catholic social and moral issues. Finally, Heidi interviews Charlene Howard, the new executive director of Pax Christi USA. Their discussion includes issues of war and peace in the world.

**How do I listen?**

Click the "play" button at the top of the page to start the show. Make sure to keep the window open on your browser if you're doing other things, or the audio will stop.

*From your mobile device:*

You can listen and subscribe to "The Francis Effect" from any podcast app. If you're reading this from an iPhone or other Apple mobile device, tap [this link](#) to listen in Apple Podcasts. If you're on an Android, tap [this link](#) to listen in Google Podcasts.

If you prefer another podcast app, you can find "The Francis Effect" there. (Here's the [RSS feed](#).)

*From a desktop or laptop:*

You can visit [The Francis Effect website here](#) for more information on the show.

You can also find the podcast on Twitter: [@FrancisFXPod](#).

Advertisement

This story appears in the [The Francis Effect Podcast](#) and [Trump's Second Term](#) feature series.