

## [Opinion](#)

by Mick Forgey

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*Our team of copy editors reads and posts most of what you see on the websites for National Catholic Reporter and Global Sisters Report (the NCR project focusing on women religious). The Copy Desk Daily highlights recommended news and opinion articles that have crossed our desks on their way to you.*

**[Year after accused priest goes on leave, NJ parish remains pastorless](#)**: St. Andrew Church in Westwood, New Jersey, has endured a year of uncertainty. St. Andrew's designated pastor remains on leave, while the Newark Archdiocese investigates a reopened case of allegations of abuse of a seminarian in 1988. Parishioners have staged protests.

**[Editorial — Founding documents aren't 'perfect,' but they're our best hope](#)**: It's clear that President Donald Trump has no regard for the institutions of democratic governance. The question, "Can the institutions hold?" puts the responsibility on us and our elected officials.

**[Francis takes John Paul II's 'Be not afraid!' to new levels](#)**: Executive editor Tom Roberts goes over a mashup of evidence in Rome that points to significant change.

**[Miners in Kentucky are still feeling the hurt](#)**, as writer Robert Alan Glover follows up on a report from July.

"I am convinced our species and planet could survive if we also embodied the values of radical simplicity (or voluntary poverty), humility, downward mobility and nonviolent peacemaking." From Julia Walsh: **[We are endangered species, but](#)**

**Franciscan values could save us.**

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