

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 provides insight on recommended news and opinion articles that have crossed our desks on their way to you.*

Virginia's governor and attorney general have admitted to using blackface in the '80s; the revelations follow a long history of the offensive practice in the United States. Blackface minstrelsy has been going on in the U.S. for decades. Jesse Remedios reports on the lesser known Catholic Church connection to blackface, from its beginnings in the mid-19th century.

**Read:** [Catholic connection to blackface goes back to the racist act's start](#)

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NCR has extensive coverage of the four-day Vatican summit on clergy sex abuse. You can read [all coverage and commentary here](#). Read about the pope's concluding promise that the Catholic Church will "decisively confront" the abuse of children.

**Read:** [Francis ends Vatican summit with promise church will 'decisively confront' abuse](#)

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Twelve women, 10 sisters and two laywomen, participated in the historic summit. As part of the 190-person meeting, the women spoke about the importance of their role at the summit and what they hope that it means for the future.

**Read at Global Sisters Report:** [Sisters at abuse summit hope standard is set for more women at Vatican meetings](#)

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One of the participants, Nigerian Sr. Veronica Openibo, delivered a powerful address: "We must acknowledge that our mediocrity, hypocrisy and complacency have brought us to this disgraceful and scandalous place we find ourselves as a church."

**Read:** [At abuse summit, Sister Openibo calls for complete transparency](#)

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Michael Sean Winters hopes that "the naysayers will be as public in admitting the success of the Vatican summit last week as they were beforehand in predicting its failure."

**Read:** [The church took a large step forward after abuse summit](#)

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