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In a country deeply divided along religious lines, [**Nigeria's interfaith council fosters peaceful Christian-Muslim relations**](#). Since 1999, the Christian and Muslim leaders involved in the council have raised their voices for peace and reconciliation. But as one Nigerian Catholic priest notes, "The sad reality is that the positive voices and initiatives of these religious leaders are not often given the kind of publicity that Boko Haram seems to enjoy."

Critics of the synod for the Amazon seem to believe the only true church is a Eurocentric church, and the mockery and disdain for different cultural expressions took form in the vandalism of an indigenous statue. Troubled by these reactions, Theology en la Plaza columnist M.T. Dávila writes about [**encountering the Spirit in the symbols of the ancestors**](#) and the radical transformation that can follow.

Remembering the black eye that Pope Francis got in Colombia has Sr. Sandra Wiafewa Agyeman contemplating the Incarnation and the frailties of humanity: [**The Word became human and lived nowhere but among us.**](#)

An insightful speech from San Diego's bishop and a petulant statement from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops showed [**the church at its best and its worst, in one day**](#), Michael Sean Winters writes.

The U.S. bishops' [**fall meeting**](#) starts this week, and Bishop Michael Bransfield won't be there. But he's hardly the only U.S. prelate to lose his position as head of a diocese because of allegations of misconduct. So NCR's national correspondent, Heidi Schlumpf, asks: [**After Bransfield disinvitation, will other bishops follow suit?**](#)

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