Opinion



(NCR photo/Teresa Malcolm)



by Teresa Malcolm

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Who holds the Catholic key to Florida's 2020 election? The political mix at play includes an influx of Puerto Ricans who arrived after Hurricane Maria and who tend to be Democrats, and Republican retirees transplanted from the Midwest and Northeast.

Parishioners on the Chesapeake Bay can see the threat of rising temperatures right outside their window and are **making their case: Maryland Catholics lobby the State House on climate**. EarthBeat's Jesse Remedios reports on the "Lobby Night" efforts of the group called Maryland Catholics for Our Common Home.

Mexican women are making the news for massive protests against gender-based violence in their country. NCR contributor Carli Pierson has a Q&A with a journalist and activist who's been tracking the epidemic of femicide since 2016: <u>Despite</u> <u>threats, Frida Guerrera raises women's lost voices in Mexico</u>.

The story when Jesus washes the feet of his disciples captures Pauline Hovey's senses like never before as she reflects on her encounters with migrants who bear the marks of long, weary travel. In the Scripture passage, she hears a message for herself: **Tend to what repulses you**.

It's a setback, but Catholic sisters who represent their congregations at the United Nations were not surprised to learn <u>coronavirus concerns prompt UN to</u> <u>suspend annual gathering on women</u>. The 64th session of the Commission on the Status of Women had been scheduled to run March 9-20. "I'm very disappointed, especially for those who put in so much for the preparations. I know there was great work being done," Charity Sr. Carol De Angelo told GSR. "But it's probably a wise decision with so much unknown." (In related news: <u>Two Catholic universities</u> <u>cancel public classes during coronavirus threat</u> — Fordham and Seattle University.)

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