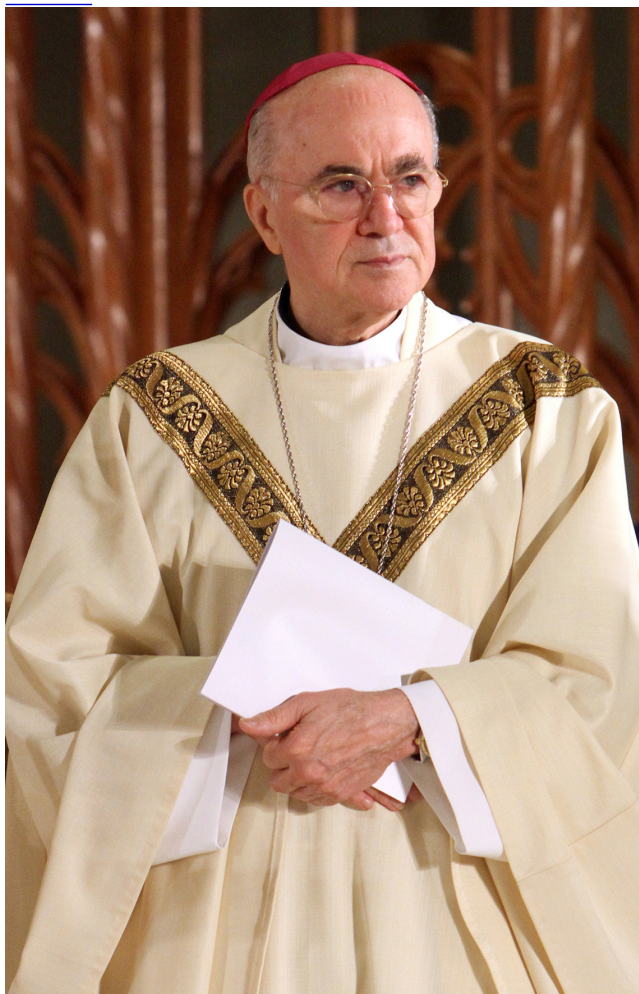


[News](#)



Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, then nuncio to the United States, and then-Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington, are seen in a combination photo from Oct. 4, 2014. (CNS/Gregory A. Shemitz)

by NCR Staff

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September 7, 2018

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As the podcast comes back from a summer hiatus, we take a long look at the recent months' news around clergy sexual abuse that has re-opened a wound for many Catholics around the world.

On the show today:

- [Dennis Coday](#), NCR editor-in-chief
- [Joshua J. McElwee](#), NCR Vatican correspondent
- [Heidi Schlumpf](#), national correspondent for NCR
- [Michael Sean Winters](#), who covers politics and religion in his NCR column *Distinctly Catholic*

Background reading:

- In late June, Cardinal Theodore McCarrick announced that [he was stepping down from active ministry](#) after allegations of sexual abuse were found "credible and substantiated." McCarrick [renounced his place in the College of Cardinals](#) a few weeks later in the wake of revelations that he sexually harassed or abused several young men during his career in the church hierarchy.
- After the release of the Pennsylvania grand jury report, [Michael Sean Winters wrote](#) that bishops must go beyond making statements and "lead the church in contrition and penance."
- More than 3,000 theologians, educators and lay leaders in August [called for all U.S. bishops to submit their resignations](#) to Pope Francis, much like Chile's 34 bishops did in May after revelations of sexual abuse and corruption, as a public act of penance.
- Aug. 26: Former Vatican ambassador Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò [published an 11-page letter](#) claiming there was a systemic cover-up by church leaders of allegations that McCarrick was sexually abusing seminarians. The Viganò letter is [a coordinated attack on Francis](#), wrote Michael Sean Winters. The pope [dismissed the accusations](#) aboard the papal flight from Dublin. If after all this, you're still wondering who exactly Viganò is, NCR's Brian Roewe has an explanation of [Viganò's career and history at the center of Vatican controversies](#).
- For commentary and more reporting on the clergy sex abuse crisis in the church, follow [our Accountability channel](#).

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