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The U.S. Capitol in Washington is seen March 18. (CNS/ Reuters/Tom Brenner)



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**Editor's note:** *NCR executive editor Heidi Schlumpf has joined "The Francis Effect" for its seventh season as a co-host with Franciscan Fr. Dan Horan and David Dault. The podcast airs every other Wednesday and will be available on NCR's site as well as on various podcast apps.*

NCR executive editor Heidi Schlumpf has joined Season 7 of "The Francis Effect" podcast. She joins co-hosts Franciscan Fr. Dan Horan (columnist for NCR's "[Faith Seeking Understanding](#)") and David Dault, executive producer and host of "Things Not Seen: Conversations about Culture and Faith."

In this episode, Horan, Dault and Schlumpf recap the Democratic and Republican National Conventions, examine the state of Catholic politics and discuss the monthlong ecumenical observance known as the [Season of Creation](#).

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