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President Joe Biden addresses a joint session of Congress in Washington, D.C., April 28, 2021, with Vice President Kamala Harris and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., on the dais behind him. (CNS/Reuters pool/Melina Mara)



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NCR executive editor Heidi Schlumpf is part this season of "The Francis Effect" podcast, joining co-hosts Franciscan Fr. Daniel 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 week's episode, the final one of Season 8, Heidi, Father Daniel and David talk about President Joe Biden's address to the joint session of Congress and the U.S. bishops' opinions on whether or not Biden should receive Communion. They also look at factors influencing some Catholics to leave the church. (And they share their plans for the summer vacation — and conference — season.)

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