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by NCR Staff

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On April 9, the Vatican announced the release of a new papal document titled *Gaudete et Exsultate*, ("Rejoice and Be Glad!"). The apostolic exhortation is the third of Pope Francis' papacy and the fifth major teaching document he has published in five years.

### **On the show today:**

- NCR Vatican correspondent [Joshua J. McElwee](#)
- Brian Flanagan, associate professor of theology at Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia. He is the author of [Stumbling in Holiness: Sin and Sanctity in the Church](#), to be published this September by Liturgical Press, and a contributor to the blog [www.dailytheology.org](http://www.dailytheology.org). You can find him on Twitter at [@BrianPFlanagan](#).

### **Background reading:**

- [Joshua J. McElwee reports](#) that the document is a call to become holy by serving others, especially migrants.
- In *Gaudete et Exsultate*, Francis puts the "exhort" back into exhortation in one long, incisive effort to urge Christians on, [says Michael Sean Winters](#).
- In the document, Francis is calling us on a journey of 'small holiness,' [writes Brian Flanagan](#).
- NCR's Jamie Manson asks: [Should women rejoice over Gaudete et Exsultate?](#)

- Cardinal Blase Cupich and others [have praised \*Gaudete et Exsultate\*](#) for addressing spiritual hunger and providing practical help for parishes.



Pope Francis' new apostolic exhortation, "Gaudete et Exsultate" ("Rejoice and Be Glad"), was released at the Vatican April 9. (CNS photo)

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