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An election sign is seen in the Brookland neighborhood of Washington Oct. 27.  
(CNS/Tyler Orsburn)



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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."

Dault, Horan and Schlumpf recorded this episode to be released before Election Day. They discuss the road leading to the 2020 elections, obsession with polls and what could lie ahead after Tuesday Nov. 3. Then, the trio examines the recent remarks from Pope Francis about civil unions for LGBTQ persons.

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