An image of Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis is overlaid with the words "Don't attack our democracy" at a rally to denounce the governor's immigration policies Sept. 20 in Doral, Florida. (AP/Rebecca Blackwell)



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NCR executive editor Heidi Schlumpf is part of the new season of "The Francis Effect" podcast, joining co-hosts Franciscan Fr. Daniel Horan ([columnist for NCR](#)) and [David Dault](#), executive producer and host of "Things Not Seen: Conversations About Culture and Faith."

Heidi, Father Daniel, and David look at Catholic governors who use migrants as [political pawns](#), the recent synthesis reports from the [Synod on synodality](#), and recent developments and long-term effects in the ongoing [war in Ukraine](#).

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This story appears in the **The Francis Effect Podcast**, **Synod on Synodality**, and **War in Ukraine** feature series.