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Signage for the 2024 Iowa caucuses is seen taken with a long exposure at the Iowa Caucus Media Center located within the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines Jan. 14. (OSV News/Reuters/Cheney Orr)



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NCR senior correspondent [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."

The 2024 election cycle has begun, and Father Daniel, Heidi and David discuss what the Iowa caucus can tell us about next November. Then we discuss the implications of the recent document on blessing same-sex couples, and Heidi interviews political scientist and friend of the show [Steven P. Millies](#).

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