

Friday digest

August 10, 2012

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New today from the *Century*:

- Rodney Clapp on [a phobia of his](#): "I am not squeamish about most animals or insects. But snakes are a different story." (subscription required)
- Steve Thorngate on [word nerds and status anxiety](#)
- James Sledge on [waiting for God](#)
- A brief review of the new book from Cascade on [Christan nonviolence](#)
- "[Altar flowers](#)," a poem by Mary M. Brown

In the news:

- [Faith leaders urge Americans to combat attacks on religious minorities](#)
- [Nuns gather to plot response to Vatican crackdown](#)
- [For Sikhs, the soul lives on long after the body dies](#)
- [Sikh vigils greet violence with peace, food](#)
- [Do the American nuns have a future?](#)