

## [News](#)



An aerial view of downtown Green Bay, Wisconsin, includes the steeples of St. Willebrord Church, left, St. John the Evangelist Church, center, and St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, right. (CNS/Sam Lucero, The Compass)



by Peter Feuerherd

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**Editor's note:** *The Field Hospital blog reports on parish and other grassroots efforts across the U.S. and Canada to accompany those on the margins. Pope Francis said he sees the church as a "field hospital" that labors "from the ground up" to "heal wounds."*

Pushback in the New York Archdiocese: The pastoral council of an upstate Poughkeepsie church [says it won't go along](#) with a proposed merger.

Meanwhile, parishioners in the Archdiocese of Hartford [file an appeal](#) with the Vatican about their parish closure.

And closures in the Pittsburgh Diocese [become the subject](#) of a civil court hearing.

Also in the New York Archdiocese: [Questions arise](#) about the future of an AIDS memorial at a Greenwich Village church slated for closure.

From Guam to Boston, USA Today [reports on the continued reverberations](#) of sex abuse on parishes.

Stretching the bounds of forgiveness, a Virginia [pastor is exposed](#) as a former Ku Klux Klan member who terrorized a black family decades ago. Where was the vetting before he was ordained?

Parishes in the Washington Archdiocese are [challenged by protesters](#) to join the immigrant sanctuary movement.

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Pennsylvania parishes [post the Ten Commandments](#).

Arise Milwaukee [offers an approach](#) to youth and young adult ministry.

The cathedral in Green Bay, Wisconsin, [will close for three months](#), part of a \$2.7 million restoration project.

PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) asks churches [not to provide lobsters](#) for fundraisers.

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