News



St. Paul Catholic Church in Lexington, Kentucky, had a sign outside of its church in June welcoming LGBTQ members. (Courtesy of Mike Stunson/Lexington Herald Leader)



by Peter Feuerherd

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In the <u>Diocese of Forth Worth, Texas</u>, signs warning against carrying firearms have been removed outside churches. The reasons why are confusing, as the diocese still maintains a no-guns inside church policy. Removing the signs is supposed to enhance security.

SPRED, a <u>program to include developmentally disabled adults</u> in parish life begun in the Archdiocese of Chicago, comes to Newport News, Virginia.

The Diocese of Fresno, California, <u>warns about bogus funeral</u> ceremonies presided over by phony priests.

Is your <u>church really open to people with disabilities</u>? The answer goes beyond a ramp for wheelchairs. A checklist provides the right questions to ask.

St. Paul's Church in Lexington, Kentucky, <u>welcomes LGBTQ Catholics</u> with a gay rights banner. The symbolic outreach has generated positive comments from parishioners.

A Maine pastor of six parishes is <u>recognized upon his retirement</u> for his social justice work, including outreach to Muslim immigrants.

The history of Black Catholics in Kentucky is explored in a documentary.

A parish in Michigan <u>moves on</u> after its longtime pastor is tried on embezzlement charges.

Parishes in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Ohio, use the summer festival season as an <u>opportunity for evangelization</u>. It's a place where non-Catholics and inactive Catholics come together. Social ministry programs such as refugee resettlement are highlighted and efforts are made to invite fairgoers into the Catholic parish tent.

[Peter Feuerherd is a correspondent for NCR's Field Hospital series on parish life and is a professor of journalism at St. John's University, New York.]

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