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Catholics hold hands during a 2016 Mass in Sioux City, Iowa. (CNS/Catholic Globe/Jerry L. Mennenga)



by Peter Feuerherd

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No more hugging or handholding at Mass. Church officials in New Mexico and Pennsylvania warn parishioners to [keep their distance](#) this flu season.

Parishioners at St. Peter Church in Cameron, Wisconsin, prayed incessantly for the return of kidnapped 13-year-old Jayme Closs. They are now offering [prayers of thanksgiving](#).

A Catholic school in Reading, Ohio, needs to raise \$200,000 to keep from closing, after two parishes pulled the plug on funding. Now it's a [race against the clock](#) to keep St. Nicholas Academy alive.

Church music publisher Oregon Catholic Press [offers grants to parishes](#) to improve liturgical music and worship. Last year, the company gave away \$200,000.

The Philadelphia Historical Commission [protects a historical shrine](#), much to the chagrin of the archdiocese.

Bishop Ronald Gainer of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, [meets with parishioners](#) concerned about the future of the church and the sex abuse crisis.

Bishop Richard Malone of Buffalo, New York, wants Catholics to [look beyond their anger](#) and support Catholic Charities.

[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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