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Fr. Rafael Bercasio speaks to tourists gathered for Sunday Mass in late March at El Cristo Rey Chapel in Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona. (CNS/Florida Catholic/Ana Rodriguez-Soto)



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."

There's a parish out there for every taste: for traditionalists, social justice activists, ethnic groups. Author and professor [Charles Camosy describes](#) the growth of "personal" parishes and how they might serve as a model for a future church.

A disturbing story: how [parishes on Native American reservations](#) became a dumping ground for predatory priests in Montana.

Can't beat the view: A pastor ministers in a [parish that serves the Grand Canyon](#).

[Traditionalist Catholics find a home](#) in a parish in suburban Cincinnati approved by the Diocese of Covington, Kentucky. No vocation shortage here: There are five priests in residence.

[A Kansas town](#) founded on farming and faith struggles to survive.

Meanwhile, Catholic parishes in [formerly non-Catholic South Carolina](#) are growing.

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In Jersey City, New Jersey, a social activist pastor brings [two parishes together](#) in a merger.

[Bring a young person to church](#) is the ecumenical campaign in Erie, Pennsylvania.

[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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