

[Opinion](#)



by Dennis Coday

[View Author Profile](#)

dcoday@ncronline.org

Follow on Twitter at [@dcoday](#)

[Join the Conversation](#)

Send your thoughts to *Letters to the Editor*. [Learn more](#)

September 20, 2017

[Share on Bluesky](#)[Share on Facebook](#)[Share on Twitter](#)[Email to a friend](#)[Print](#)

Natural disasters are back in the news today:

- Mexico quake aftermath: [Over 200 dead, dozens of buildings destroyed](#) (video footage)
- Just over an hour ago -- Hurricane Maria live updates: [Major damage in Dominica, Coast Guard ready to help in Puerto Rico](#)

Perhaps you saw that President Trump recently visited the United Nations:

- [With Combative Style and Epithets, Trump Takes America First to the U.N.](#) (Video highlights)
- [Fact-checking Donald Trump's United Nations speech](#)
- [Trump's first UN speech met with criticism from some leaders](#)
- Editorial [Trump gives the world a needlessly offensive campaign speech at the U.N.](#)

Cox Bazar, Bangladesh -- [Persecution fuels radicalization of young Rohingya](#)
An independent Arakan is the only way for a lasting peace and I am ready to die for

it, says Rohingya youth

Of course, the big news over the weekend and early this week, was [Fr. James Martin uninvited from talk at CUA seminary.](#)

- But did you know that a week before that NCR's Brian Roewe was already reporting: [Fr. James Martin in social media fray over LGBT conversation](#)
- The Real Scandal -- Commentary by John Gehring at Commonweal: [What Attacks on James Martin Say about the U.S. Church](#)
- NCR's Heidi Schlumpf reminds us that not all people hunted by these social media groups are as high profile as Jim Martin. Ever hear of Rebecca Bratten Weiss? ['New Pro-Life Movement' co-founder loses job, attacked online](#)

Here's another story we published a couple weeks back: "Irish priests call for diaconate pause" [Wait on results from pope's commission on women deacons, they say](#) But NCR's Peter Feuerherd found their counterparts in USA and Canada [gave that call a cool reception.](#)

Advertisement

Msgr. John Strykowski, a priest of the Diocese of Brooklyn, writes about [Scriptural and doctrinal foundations of Catholic social teaching](#)

Chris Herlinger, correspondent for Global Sisters Report, is a veteran traveler to South Sudan. His last reporting from there takes a step back from events to try to make sense of it all:

- Juba, South Sudan -- [How religious renew their strength amid civil war](#)
- Juba, South Sudan -- [In civil war, soldiers are the wild cards -- and tough to access](#)

Start your day inspired with daily scripture reflections. Join NCR's sister publication, *Celebration*, for [Daily Bread](#), a series of short reflections written by four authors who meet regularly to share the readings.

Or reflect on [Pencil Preaching by Pat Marrin](#). Every morning Pat Marrin breaks open the Word with a pencil sketch and a short meditation.
