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Volcanic gases rise from the Kilauea lava flow that crossed Pohoiki Road near Pahoa, Hawaii, May 28. Members of Sacred Heart Parish in Pahoa are opening their homes to those who lost theirs. (CNS/Reuters/Marco Garcia)



by Peter Feuerherd

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The Diocese of Wichita, Kansas, is undergoing a vocations boom. [Ten men were ordained](#) for the diocese this year. The challenge now is to find ways to pay for new associate pastors.

Five men were ordained for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana, the largest group since 1975. A vocations director [explains the growing ordination numbers](#).

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Deacon W. James Booth of Holy Family Church, in Brentwood, Tennessee, is sharing [artwork depicting the crucifixion](#) painted by death-row inmates. It is a way, he says, of connecting those on the outside with the humanity of those inside prison.

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Parishioners in Hawaii [open their homes](#) to those threatened by volcanic eruptions.

Small Christian communities [come together for a conference](#) in the Diocese of Orlando, Florida.

A Southern Baptist convert to Catholicism [promotes evangelization](#). "It just wasn't a possibility in my world, but I crossed the threshold and felt the Real Presence, and that's when I became a Catholic," Sherry Anne Weddell said

In East Texas, [parish nurses minister](#) to health needs.

[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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