



by Teresa Malcolm

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[\*\*In Hawaii, Mauna Kea 'protectors' fight telescope project with prayer.\*\*](#) The activists, who call themselves *kia'i*, are trying to stop construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope, partly for environmental reasons, but their motivation is also unapologetically religious, defending a mountain that Native Hawaiians consider sacred.

Did you know that the image on Pope Francis' pectoral cross is that of Jesus as a shepherd? Sr. Laura Hammel meditates on [\*\*the protection of the Good Shepherd\*\*](#) and the comfort of this Christian symbol in times of fear and vulnerability.

[\*\*Calling Sen. Mitch McConnell on gun control: Is anybody there? Does anybody care?\*\*](#) A Kentucky contributor addresses his senator.

ICYMI: [\*\*Pope urges Mauritius, island tax haven, to reject 'idolatrous economic model.'\*\*](#) Keep updated on Joshua McElwee's reporting from Francis' three-nation [\*\*visit to Africa\*\*](#).

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