Opinion



by Dennis Coday

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September 20, 2017
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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.**

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Msgr. John Strynkowski, 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**

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Or reflect on **Pencil Preaching by Pat Marrin**. Every morning Pat Marrin breaks open the Word with a pencil sketch and a short meditation.
