

## [Opinion](#)



by Tracy Abeln

[View Author Profile](#)

[tabeln@ncronline.org](mailto:tabeln@ncronline.org)

## [Join the Conversation](#)

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

May 4, 2020

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

## **Recommended for you today, from the NCR/GSR/EarthBeat copy desk:**

Who isn't struggling these days? With classes moved online and dorm rooms emptied out, the COVID-19 pandemic has left Catholic colleges across the country strapped for cash, trying to figure out how to support their students and staff — or stay alive at all. One expert estimates that 10 to 20 smaller private U.S. colleges could close in the coming year. [Read more.](#)

Under COVID-19 lockdown, Srs. Sokny Nheb and Hill Pen say they miss their normal ministries — like teaching catechism, holding singing practice, visiting and teaching basic life skills to village children in Stung Treng. Read: [Lovers of the Holy Cross help sustain church in remote area of Cambodia](#)

**Opinion:** Regarding the recent protests against stay-at-home orders, only a deeply inadequate political theory would not see that bringing a gun to the legislature inhibits free speech and threatens the functioning of democracy. [Read more.](#)

**Commentary:** Detention centers are "known to be places where infections spread at lightning speed once they enter," explains Maryknoll lay missionary Heidi Cerneka,

who works as an immigration attorney in El Paso. [Read more.](#)

Report highlights role of immigrants as essential workers in COVID fight. [Read more about 19.8 million immigrant laborers who work in "essential critical infrastructure" in the U.S.](#)

***Want to keep updated with the latest news from the National Catholic Reporter? [Sign up here](#) for news updates by email — including one that will send you Copy Desk Daily every Monday through Friday.***

Advertisement