



Committee for Religious Liberty

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Arson, Vandalism, and Other Destruction at Catholic Churches in the United States

Summary: At least 199 incidents have occurred across 41 states and the District of Columbia since May 2020. Incidents include arson, statues beheaded, limbs cut, smashed, and painted, gravestones defaced with swastikas and anti-Catholic language and American flags next to them burned, and other destruction and vandalism.

Statements, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops:

U.S. Bishops' Religious Liberty Committee Chairman Offers Reflection for Religious Freedom Day 2022, January 14, 2022

<https://www.usccb.org/news/2022/us-bishops-religious-liberty-committee-chairman-offers-reflection-religious-freedom-day>

One Hundred Incidents of Vandalism Reported at Catholic Sites in U.S. Since May 2020, October 14, 2021

<https://www.usccb.org/news/2021/one-hundred-incidents-vandalism-reported-catholic-sites-us-may-2020>

Archbishop Thomas Wenski of Miami, chairman, Committee on Religious Liberty, and Archbishop Paul Coakley of Oklahoma City, chairman, Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, statement, "Bishop Chairmen Condemn Acts of Vandalism, Destruction at Catholic Site," July 22, 2020

<http://usccb.org/news/2020/20-123.cfm>

Op-eds:

"Violent threats against people of faith are the opposite of human rights," by Cardinal Timothy Dolan

Fox News, 24 June 2022

<https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/violent-threats-against-people-faith-are-opposite-human-rights>

"We Preach Love! Why Do Some Hate Us?" by Cardinal Timothy Dolan
Catholic New York, 2 June 2021

<https://www.cny.org/stories/we-preach-love-why-do-some-hate-us,22401>

"The Radicals Who Defaced St. Patrick's Cathedral Are Pure Bigots," by Cardinal Timothy Dolan
New York Post, 5 January 2021

<https://nypost.com/2021/01/05/the-radicals-who-defaced-st-patricks-cathedral-are-pure-bigots/>

National overviews:

"Bishops Seek Answers in Vandalism of Churches and Catholic Symbols," by Alejandra Molina
Religion News Service, 8 November 2021

<https://religionnews.com/2021/11/08/bishops-seek-answers-in-vandalism-of-churches-and-catholic-symbols/>

“Religious Freedom Week Shines Light on Anti-Catholic Vandalism,” by Nicholas Wolfram Smith

National Catholic Register, 1 July 2021

<https://www.ncregister.com/news/religious-freedom-week-shines-light-on-anti-catholic-vandalism>

“Desecration of Catholic Churches Across U.S. Leaves Congregations Shaken,” by Francis X. Rocca

Wall Street Journal, 22 July 2020

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/desecration-of-catholic-churches-across-u-s-leaves-congregations-shaken-11595451973>

Advocacy:

[Letter from Cardinal Timothy Dolan and Archbishop Paul Coakley in Support of Increased Funding to the Nonprofit Security Grant Program](#)

January 14, 2022

[Interfaith Letter in Support of Increased Funding to the Nonprofit Security Grant Program](#)

June 1, 2021

[USCCB Letter to Congress Requesting Funding for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program](#)

May 7, 2021

[Interfaith Letter Supporting Increased Funding for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program](#)

October 5, 2020

Beauty Heals: The vandalism of churches and their sacred art gives us the opportunity to bear witness to our hope in the Lord whose beauty is revealed on the Cross. Beauty Heals invites us to learn about works of devotional art significant to local churches and how they inspire Catholics to live beautifully.

- Videos: www.usccb.org/BeautyHeals
- Podcast Episode: [Beauty Heals, with Bishop Robert Barron](#)

Events:

January 2023

January 25: Statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Baby Jesus vandalized (Good Shepherd Church, Fall River, MA)

<https://turnto10.com/news/local/vandals-hit-good-shepherd-church-fall-river-massachusetts-infant-jesus-blessed-mother-stature-january-25-2023>

January 23: Woman overturned potted plant, smashed statue of Jesus Christ (St. Mary’s Cathedral, Fargo, ND)

<https://www.ncregister.com/cna/woman-arrested-at-fargo-cathedral-for-smashing-christ-in-death-statue>

January 20: Front doors vandalized (St. Boniface Catholic Church, Cincinnati, OH)

<https://local12.com/news/local/two-cincinnati-churches-hit-by-vandalism-break-ins-over-last-week-vandals-thieves-burglary-refrigerator-food-emptied-kitchen-items-stolen-southern-baptist-church-reading-road-avondale-graffiti-front-doors-st-boniface-roman-catholic-cincinnati-ohio>

January 20: Baby Jesus stolen, statues damaged (San Pablo Catholic Church, Marathon, FL)

<https://cbs12.com/news/local/baby-jesus-stolen-san-pablo-cathloic-church-marathon-florida-nativity-scene-florida-keys>

January 17: Glass door shattered, image of Our Lady of Guadalupe slashed, statues and other religious items stolen, walls graffitied (Mary Queen of Peace, Billings, MT)

https://www.bluemountaineagle.com/life/national/billings-south-side-church-recovering-from-vandalism-theft/article_d9afbeaf-1f93-523e-982b-6d5f62f2bd43.html

January 16: Statues for outdoor nativity set smashed, stolen (St. Patrick Co-Cathedral, Billings, MT)

<https://www.krtv.com/news/montana-and-regional-news/montana-churchs-nativity-scene-vandalized-the-wise-men-were-all-decapitated>

January 13: Man threw brick through window of front door, attempted to set flagpole on fire (St. Agnes Catholic Church, Blackwood, NJ)

<https://6abc.com/catholic-church-vandalized-peter-sirolli-arrest-st-patrick-rhuch-theresa/12698488/>

January 13: Man attempted to throw rock through window (St. Teresa Church, Runnemede, NJ)

<https://6abc.com/catholic-church-vandalized-peter-sirolli-arrest-st-patrick-rhuch-theresa/12698488/>

January 13: Cross set on fire on church lawn (St. Patrick's Church, Woodbury, NJ)

<https://6abc.com/catholic-church-vandalized-peter-sirolli-arrest-st-patrick-rhuch-theresa/12698488/>

January 10: Glass windows of front door shattered by thrown object (St. Mary Catholic Church, Escondido, CA)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/253339/california-church-vandalized-three-times-since-christmas-suspect-apprehended>

January 9: Bottle thrown at statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe (St. Mary Catholic Church, Escondido, CA)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/253339/california-church-vandalized-three-times-since-christmas-suspect-apprehended>

January 5: Altar smashed with sledgehammer, reliquaries stolen (Subiaco Abbey, Subiaco, AR)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/253275/arkansas-monastery-s-altar-desecrated-with-sledgehammer-1500-yr-old-relics-stolen>

January 5: Nativity scene vandalized (St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church, Jamaica, NY)

<https://thetablet.org/parishioners-horrified-after-vandals-destroy-nativity-in-queens-just-hours-before-the-epiphany/>

December 2022

December 30: Brick thrown through window, woman entered church and threatened priest (Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, Grand Island, NE)

<https://nebraska.tv/news/local/church-window-vandalized-in-grand-island-blessed-sacrament-catholic-church>

December 25: Flower vases kicked over, crucifix vandalized (St. Mary Catholic Church, Escondido, CA)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/253339/california-church-vandalized-three-times-since-christmas-suspect-apprehended>

December 25: Satanic symbolism etched into wooden doors of cathedral (Cathedral of St. Peter, Scranton, PA)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/253194/vandals-carved-666-on-pennsylvania-cathedral-doors-on-christmas>

December 11: Three statues vandalized (St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Downingtown, PA)

<https://6abc.com/downingtown-pa-church-vandalized-saint-josephs-catholic-chester-county-pennsylvania/12560628/>

November 2022

November 26: Stained glass windows broken, grounds damaged by vehicle (St. Bernard Catholic Church, Weston, WV)

<https://www.wdtv.com/2022/11/28/112-year-old-lewis-county-church-vandalized-again/>

November 23: Phallic symbols spray-painted on church exterior (St. Andrew Catholic Church, Eagle River, AK)

<https://alaskawatchman.com/2022/11/25/eagle-river-church-vandalized-again-with-painted-phallic-symbols/>

November 20: Graffiti spray-painted on outdoor Divine Mercy shrine (St. Peter Catholic Parish, Kenosha, WI)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/252880/divine-mercy-catholic-parish-in-kenosha-wisconsin-graffiti>

October 2022

October 31: Cemetary vandalized with satanic graffiti (Calvary Cemetery, Rochester, MI)

<https://www.kaaltv.com/news/local-news/calvary-cemetery-in-rochester-vandalized-halloween-night/>

October 30: Satanic symbols spray-painted on church (St. Pius X Catholic Church, Mountlake Terrace, WA)

<https://lynnwoodtimes.com/2022/11/02/church-vandalized-221102/>

October 28: Wrench thrown through the door of Archbishop's residence (Archdiocese of New York, New York, NY)

<https://www.cbsnews.com/newyork/news/nypd-suspect-threw-wrench-through-glass-door-of-cardinal-dolans-midtown-residence/>

October 25: Interior of church vandalized, including damage to tabernacle and baptismal font; obscenities written on altar and Eucharist desecrated (Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Colusa, CA)

<https://www.cbsnews.com/sacramento/news/colusa-church-vandalized-possibly-targeting-catholic-community/>

October 23: Front door of church vandalized (St. Stephen Catholic Church, El Paso, TX)

<https://www.ktsm.com/news/police-looking-for-man-who-vandalized-east-side-church-damaging-glass-doors/>

October 17: Fire started inside church, causing damage to stained glass and stations of the cross (St. Patrick's Parish, Watsonville, CA)

<https://www.ksbw.com/article/watsonvilles-st-patricks-catholic-church-was-arson-church-alleges/41691317>

October 9: Church vandalized with pro-abortion messages (Church of the Resurrection, Lansing, MI)

<https://aleteia.org/2022/10/15/lansing-church-vandalized-with-anti-christian-symbols-and-foul-words/>

October 5: Man attacked desk attendant with a sword, threw incendiary device at building (Holy Family Cathedral, Tulsa, OK)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/252480/police-man-attacked-tulsa-cathedral-attendant-with-sword-tried-to-set-building-on-fire>

October 3: Statue of Blessed Virgin Mary smashed, sign run over by car (Mary's Nativity-St. Ann Parish, Flushing, NY)

<https://thetablet.org/man-faces-hate-crime-charges-following-vandalism-arrest-at-catholic-church-in-flushing/>

September 2022

September 25: Exterior of Catholic pro-life medical clinic graffitied with satanic messages and imagery (Bella Health + Wellness, Englewood, CO)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/252386/denver-area-pro-life-medical-practice-vandalized>

September 24: Political messages and satanic symbols spray-painted on exterior (St. Mary's Catholic Church, Arcata, CA)

<https://thepostmillennial.com/northern-california-churches-vandalized-kill-maga-pigs-spray-painted-with-antifa-and-satanic-symbols>

September 18: Office graffitied (St. Thomas Aquinas Pastoral Center, Palo Alto, CA)

<https://www.kron4.com/news/bay-area/vandalism-at-catholic-church-office-in-palo-alto-dubbed-as-hate-crime/>

August 2022

August 30: Statue of Our Lady of Fatima stolen (St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, Gibbsboro, NJ)

<https://tdpelmedia.com/pastor-of-catholic-church-new-jersey-pray-our-lady-of-fatima-stolen-statue-is-returned-before-sept-8-celebration-of-marys-nativity>

August 19: Statues and outdoor event tent and shed vandalized (St. Mary Catholic Church, Glen Falls, NY)

https://poststar.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/st-marys-church-statues-shed-tent-vandalized/article_81be5a9a-2485-11ed-97cc-4762d336f69a.html

August 11 & 15: Statue of St. Anthony decapitated and damaged, benches and windowsill smashed, office ransacked and candles destroyed (St. Anthony Catholic School, Washington, DC)

<https://cruxnow.com/church-in-the-usa/2022/08/principal-calls-vandalism-at-catholic-school-in-washington-a-hate-crime>

August 6 & 8: Front doors and windows hit by bullets from drive-by shootings (Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, Denver, CO)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/251996/gunshots-target-denver-area-catholic-church>

August 2: San Clemente statue decapitated, satanic altar found behind church (San Clemente Mission Parish, Bakersfield, CA)

<https://www.kget.com/news/local-news/east-bakersfield-catholic-churches-suffer-thousands-of-dollars-in-damage/>

August 2: Stained glass windows smashed by rocks (St. Joseph Catholic Church, Bakersfield, CA)

<https://www.kget.com/news/local-news/east-bakersfield-catholic-churches-suffer-thousands-of-dollars-in-damage/>

July 2022

July 23: Statue of Blessed Virgin Mary smashed, statues of St. Joseph and baby Jesus decapitated (Kingsburg Holy Family Catholic Church, Kingsburg, CA)

<https://www.kmjnow.com/2022/07/26/catholic-mother-mary-church-statue-destroyed-in-california-small-town/>

July 14: Windows shattered, statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary toppled (St. Thomas Aquinas Parish School, East Lansing, MI)

<https://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/2022/07/15/lansing-area-catholic-schools-vandalism/10067909002/>

July 14: Multiple windows broken with rocks (Lansing Catholic High School, Lansing, MI)

<https://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/2022/07/15/lansing-area-catholic-schools-vandalism/10067909002/>

July 9: Multiple fires set inside church building, statues pulled down, Stations of the Cross torn from walls, books torn (St. Jane Frances de Chantal Church, Bethesda, MD)

<https://thdialog.org/national-news/maryland-church-latest-target-of-vandalism-pastor-encourages-people-to-remember-we-are-the-church/>

July 9: Church building vandalized with pro-abortion messages, statue of Blessed Virgin Mary defaced (Church of the Ascension, Overland Park, KS)

<https://www.nationalreview.com/news/kansas-church-vandalized-with-my-body-my-choice-graffiti/>

July 5: Windows broken and sprinkler system damaged repeatedly over 2-month period (St. Mary's Catholic Church, Oakdale, CA)

<https://www.modbee.com/news/local/oakdale/article263098048.html>

July 4: Pro-abortion message spray-painted on building (St. Bernard Catholic Church, Madison, WI)

<https://www.nationalreview.com/news/wisconsin-church-vandalized-with-pro-abortion-anti-police-graffiti/>

July 3: Pro-abortion, anti-Christian messages spray-painted on building (Holy Family Catholic Church, Hillsborough, NC)

<https://www.carolinajournal.com/hillsborough-catholic-parish-vandalized-w-fck-the-church-and-i-love-abortion/>

July 1: Sidewalk spray-painted outside church building (St. Charles Catholic Church, Chippewa Falls, WI)

https://www.wqow.com/news/chippewa-valley/4-catholic-chippewa-county-churches-vandalized/article_31edd004-f96f-11ec-b13d-efffc712ce0b.html

July 1: Sidewalk spray-painted outside church building (Holy Ghost Parish, Chippewa Falls, WI)

https://www.wqow.com/news/chippewa-valley/4-catholic-chippewa-county-churches-vandalized/article_31edd004-f96f-11ec-b13d-efffc712ce0b.html

July 1: Sidewalk spray-painted outside church building (Notre Dame Catholic Church, Chippewa Falls, WI)

https://www.wqow.com/news/chippewa-valley/4-catholic-chippewa-county-churches-vandalized/article_31edd004-f96f-11ec-b13d-efffc712ce0b.html

July 1: Sidewalk spray-painted outside church building (St. Peter's Catholic Church, Tilden, WI)

https://www.wqow.com/news/chippewa-valley/4-catholic-chippewa-county-churches-vandalized/article_31edd004-f96f-11ec-b13d-efffc712ce0b.html

June 2022

June 30: Fire suspected as arson caused estimated 1 million dollars in damages to school (St. Anthony of Padua School, Lorain, OH)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/251698/ohio-catholic-school-arson-fire>

June 28: Man spray-painted anti-religious messages on building, damaged doors with rocks, and threatened people at the church building (St. Louise Catholic Church, Bellevue, WA)

<https://www.q13fox.com/news/man-smashes-bellevue-church-doors-spray-paints-walls-in-broad-daylight>

June 25: Pro-abortion messages spray-painted on walls, stained glass windows broken (St. Anthony Parish, Renton, WA)

<https://mynorthwest.com/3540282/rantz-two-seattle-area-churches-vandalized-one-story-keeps-getting-stranger/>

June 25: Two statues of angels stolen, statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary toppled (St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Harlingen, TX)

<https://www.valleycentral.com/news/local-news/harlingen-church-vandalized-church-member-steps-up/>

June 25: Sign vandalized with pro-abortion messages (All Saints Parish, Portland, OR)

<https://catholicsentinel.org/Content/Default/Homepage-Rotator/Article/Sign-vandalized-at-All-Saints/-3/382/45966>

June 25: Historic church burned to ground in suspected arson attack (St. Colman Catholic Church, Shady Spring, WV)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/251648/catholic-church-attack-west-virginia-destroyed-arson>

June 25: Pro-abortion messages spray-painted on church building; mulch set on fire (St. John Neumann Catholic Community Church, Reston, VA)

<https://www.fox5dc.com/news/fire-graffiti-found-at-reston-church-in-response-to-roe-v-wade-ruling-police-say>

June 25: Statue memorializing children who died of abortion defaced (Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church, New Orleans, LA)

<https://www.fox8live.com/2022/06/25/catholic-statue-vandalized-nola-after-roe-v-wade-decision/>

June 23: Religious statues and garden pots smashed (St. Margaret's Roman Catholic Church, Buffalo, NY)

<https://www.wkbw.com/news/local-news/buffalo-police-investigating-vandalism-at-st-margarets-roman-catholic-church-on-hertel-avenue>

May 2022

May 29: Tabernacle stolen, Holy Eucharist thrown on floor, statues of angels on the altar decapitated and destroyed (St. Augustine Catholic Church, Brooklyn, NY)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/251406/tabernacle-stolen-from-brooklyn-parish-church>

May 28: Threats and pro-abortion messages spray-painted on building (South Broward Pregnancy Help Center, Miami, FL)

https://www.miamiarch.org/CatholicDiocese.php?op=Article_archdiocese-of-miami-respect-life-office-vandalized

May 22: Pro-abortion messages spray-painted on church building (St. Michael's Catholic Church, Olympia, WA)

<https://freebeacon.com/latest-news/anarchists-take-credit-for-vandalizing-four-pro-life-churches-in-washington-state/>

May 19: Pro-abortion messages spray-painted on front doors of church building (Notre Dame de Lourdes, Swarthmore, PA)

<https://www.newsweek.com/pennsylvania-catholic-church-vandalized-pro-choice-graffiti-you-do-not-have-1431107>

May 17: Statues of Lúcia dos Santos and Jacinta Marto, two of the children who witnessed the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, smashed and decapitated (Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, New York, NY)

<https://abc7ny.com/cardinal-timothy-dolan-our-lady-of-sorrows-vandalism-lower-east-side/11913896/>

May 9: Pro-abortion messages painted on front doors (Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Houston, TX)

<https://www.fox26houston.com/news/3-catholic-churches-vandalized-apparently-by-activists>

May 9: Building vandalized with pro-abortion messages, attempted desecration of Eucharist (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Katy, TX)

<https://www.fox26houston.com/news/3-catholic-churches-vandalized-apparently-by-activists>

May 9: Theft of Tabernacle containing Body and Blood of Jesus Christ (St. Bartholomew the Apostle Catholic Church, Katy, TX)

<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/neighborhood/katy/article/Sacred-tabernacle-stolen-from-Catholic-church-17160395.php>

May 8: Pro-abortion messages spray-painted on door and sign (Loreto House, Denton, TX)

https://dentonrc.com/news/crime/loreto-house-vandalized-with-spray-paint/article_6cdfea49-d456-53c5-bea6-6ad2f0e44e5a.html

May 8: Offices set on fire using incendiary devices (Oregon Right to Life, Keizer, OR)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/251189/oregon-right-to-life-office-set-on-fire>

May 7: Pro-abortion messages spray-painted on front doors, glass panels broken (St. John Paul XXIII Catholic Church, Fort Collins, CO)

<https://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/local-news/catholic-church-vandalized-in-fort-collins>

May 4: Phallic symbols spray-painted on exterior of church (St. Andrew Catholic Church, Eagle River, AK)

<https://alaskawatchman.com/2022/05/04/eagle-river-catholic-church-vandalized-with-spray-painted-phallic-symbols/>

May 4: Pro-abortion messages spray-painted on front doors (Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Boulder, CO)

https://denvergazette.com/news/crime/catholic-church-in-boulder-defiled-following-roe-v-wade-draft-opinion-leak/article_3e94a1dc-cbbd-11ec-b747-eb700948e878.html

April 2022

April 8: Thirty windows and front door broken by rocks (Cristo Rey Catholic Church, Austin, TX)

<https://www.kxan.com/news/local/austin/vandals-shatter-windows-damage-doors-at-downtown-austin-church/>

April 1: Sanctuary vandalized, crucifix and stained glass window damaged (St. Anthony's Catholic Church, North Beach, MD)

<https://www.wusa9.com/article/news/local/maryland/calvert-county-man-charged-with-burglary-after-vandalizing-church-sanctuary/65-617ea348-35fb-4d10-bbb8-dafa436b95a7>

March 2022

March 25: Statue of Our Lady of Fatima stolen (St. Jude Catholic Church, Ceres, CA)

<https://www.kcra.com/article/ceres-statue-beloved-catholics-stolen-from-church/39567346>

March 19: Statue of Jesus with children smashed (St. Mel's Catholic Church, Woodland Hills, CA)

<https://angelusnews.com/local/la-catholics/statues-restored-after-st-mels-vandalism/>

March 8: Interior and exterior of church vandalized, statue damaged (St. Mary's Catholic Church, Royal Oak, MI)

<https://www.clickondetroit.com/news/local/2022/03/14/royal-oak-church-community-gathers-in-prayer-after-man-damages-building-beloved-statue/>

March 1: Statue of the Holy Family defaced with blasphemous words and imagery (Holy Family Catholic Church, Jacksonville, FL)

<https://www.actionnewsjax.com/news/local/hail-satan-catholic-church-says-statues-holy-family-defaced/52YTXIAKVNHLZAXRDSRF5X6E2U/>

February 2022

February 28: Tombstones at Ukrainian Catholic cemetery defaced (St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church, Baltimore, MD)

<https://www.wane.com/news/ukrainian-headstones-vandalized-in-baltimore/>

February 23: Statue of the Holy Family stolen from parking lot (St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, San Antonio, TX)

<https://aleteia.org/2022/02/23/statue-of-the-holy-family-vanishes-from-parish-parking-lot/>

February 17: Two statues of angels knocked down (Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Milledgeville, GA)

<https://www.13wmaz.com/article/news/local/vandals-knock-down-angels-milledgeville-church/93-01a23a3e-393e-498f-ab32-d4c17fa7dfd0>

February 14: Stained glass windows smashed (St. Therese of the Infant Jesus Catholic Church's Shrine of the Little Flower, Albuquerque, NM)

<https://www.kob.com/albuquerque-news/suspect-arrested-for-nw-albuquerque-church-vandalism-early-monday/6393001/>

January 2022

January 27: Interior of church vandalized (Greenwood Catholic Church, Greenwood, MS)

<https://www.gwcommonwealth.com/top-stories-local-content-crime/downtown-greenwood-church-vandalized#sthash.t7W5zGLB.dpbs>

January 26: Statues of Our Lady of Fatima and children who witnessed apparitions decapitated (Church of the Nativity, Burke, VA)

https://www.catholicherald.com/News/Local_News/Marian_grotto_vandalized_at_Nativity_church/

January 14: Tabernacle vandalized, money stolen (St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, Fresno, CA)

<https://kmp.com/news/local/100-year-old-tabernacle-vandalized-suspect-on-the-loose-in-fresno>

December 2021

December 29: Christmas decorations damaged and stolen (Mary Mother of God Catholic Church, Hillsborough, NJ)

<https://patch.com/new-jersey/hillsborough/hillsborough-church-repeatedly-vandalized-decorations-stolen>

December 23: Christmas decorations damaged and stolen (Mary Mother of God Catholic Church, Hillsborough, NJ)

<https://patch.com/new-jersey/hillsborough/hillsborough-church-repeatedly-vandalized-decorations-stolen>

December 12: Christmas decorations damaged and stolen (Mary Mother of God Catholic Church, Hillsborough, NJ)

<https://patch.com/new-jersey/hillsborough/hillsborough-church-repeatedly-vandalized-decorations-stolen>

December 7: Statue of Our Lady of Fatima vandalized (Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC)

<https://wjla.com/news/local/our-lady-of-fatima-statue-vandalized-outside-basilica-national-shrine-immaculate-conception-major-catholic-americans>

November 2021

November 28: Fire at Catholic Charities, causing destruction of roof and one fifth of the building (Catholic Charities, Knoxville, TN)

<https://www.wbir.com/article/news/crime/knoxville-fire-breaks-out-at-catholic-charities-building-knoxville/51-c1f8bbfb-fbfb-4680-851f-a75fb632875c>

November 25-29: Windows smashed and statues toppled (St. Peter's Catholic Church, DeLand, FL)

<https://www.clickorlando.com/news/local/2021/12/03/churches-in-deland-targeted-in-rash-of-vandalism-police-say/>

November 9: Graffiti painted on exterior walls (St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, Chicago, IL)

<https://www.nbcchicago.com/news/local/god-sees-everything-vandals-target-100-year-old-ukrainian-village-cathedral/2678843/>

November 5: Graffiti spray-painted on exterior of Catholic mission (Mission San Jose, Fremont, CA)

<https://www.mercurynews.com/2021/11/08/mission-san-jose-in-fremont-vandalized-with-spray-paint/>

November 1: Statue of St. Anthony of Padua decapitated (St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Fargo, ND)

<https://www.am1100theflag.com/news/local-news/38356-fargo-church-statue-now-headless-in-apparent-act-of-vandalism>

October 2021

October 24: Fire set to parish office (St. Charles Borromeo, Tacoma, WA)

<https://nwcatholic.org/news/update-suspect-arrested-for-fire-at-st-charles-borromeo-parish-office>

October 22: Swastika painted on a pillar in church parking lot (Annunciation Catholic Church, Washington, DC)

<https://cathstan.org/news/us-world/updated-vandalism-reported-outside-local-catholic-church-is-among-many-such-incidents-nationwide>

October 21: Hateful messages spray-painted on exterior wall of church (American Martyrs Catholic Church, Manhattan Beach, CA)

<https://mynews1a.com/crime/2021/10/21/police-investigate-vandalism-at-manhattan-beach-church/>

October 11: Graffiti painted on exterior wall of residence (Arrupe Jesuit Residence, Seattle University, Seattle, WA)

<https://seattlespectator.com/2021/11/05/vandal-defaces-arrupe-jesuit-residence/>

October 11: Paint splattered over the exterior of the church (Los Angeles, CA, St. Peter Italian Catholic Church)

<https://www.foxla.com/news/roman-catholic-church-in-dtla-vandalized-with-grafetti>

October 10: Windows broken and exterior vandalized with spray paint (St. Edward Church, Seattle, WA)

<https://www.king5.com/article/news/local/three-catholic-churches-vandalized-in-seattle/281-7de1316a-d4e0-49dd-b633-91f593b17f7b>

October 10: Hateful messages and other graffiti found spray painted on exterior wall and door (Denver, CO, Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception)

<https://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/local-news/cathedral-basilica-of-the-immaculate-conception-in-downtown-denver-vandalized>

September 2021

September 29: Statues of Jesus vandalized (Miami Shores, FL, St. Martha Catholic Church)

<https://wsvn.com/news/local/2-statues-of-jesus-christ-vandalized-at-miami-shores-church/>

September 29: Windows broken and exterior spray painted with pro-abortion messages (Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Boulder, CO)

<https://kdvr.com/news/local/boulder-county-church-vandalized/>

September 5: Graffiti found on church's door, sign, and garden sign (St. Louis Catholic Church, Louisville, CO)

<https://denver.cbslocal.com/2021/09/06/louisville-church-vandalism-police/>

September 2: Exterior of church and parish hall vandalized with white paint (St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Jay, ME)

<https://www.pressherald.com/2021/09/02/several-businesses-and-a-church-in-jay-and-livermore-falls-vandalized/>

August 2021

August 29: Statues of Jesus vandalized (Miami Shores, FL, St. Martha Catholic Church)

<https://wsvn.com/news/local/2-statues-of-jesus-christ-vandalized-at-miami-shores-church/>

August 17: Statue of the St. Bernadette knocked down (St. Michael's Church, Flushing, NY)

<https://thecatholicspirit.com/news/nation-and-world/st-bernadette-statue-vandalized-outside-flushing-n-y-catholic-church/>

August 9: Statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary vandalized (Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Mary, Bronx, NY)

<https://thetablet.org/another-statue-vandalized-outside-a-catholic-church-in-nyc/>

August 6: Doors vandalized with black paint (St. Benedict Catholic Church, Seattle, WA)

<https://www.king5.com/article/news/local/three-catholic-churches-vandalized-in-seattle/281-7de1316a-d4e0-49dd-b633-91f593b17f7b>

July 2021

July 17: Woman seen on camera smashing statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Thérèse of Lisieux (Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, Forest Hills, NY)

<https://thetablet.org/nypd-video-vandal-destroying-our-lady-mercy-statues/>

July 11 or 12, and June 26: Three churches vandalized by fire and graffiti (St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Parish, St. Patrick Catholic Church, St. Andrew Catholic Church, Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, Portland, OR)

<https://catholicsentinel.org/Content/News/Local/Article/Three-Portland-parishes-vandalized/2/35/43825>

July 8: Fire set in bell tower (St. Mary's Catholic Church, Los Angeles, CA)

<https://mynews1a.com/crime/2021/07/08/1-a-catholic-archdiocese-assessing-damage-from-boyle-heights-church-fire-2/>

July 7: Statue of Jesus covered in red paint (Basilica of St. Lawrence, Asheville, NC)

<https://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/state/north-carolina/article252623093.html>

July 4: Man seen on camera using red paint to vandalize church buildings and statues (St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Merced, CA)

<https://www.yourcentralvalley.com/news/crime/merced-catholic-church-vandalized-with-red-handprints-police-say/>

July 2: Front doors of church vandalized with red paint (St. James Cathedral, Seattle, WA)

<https://www.capitolhillseattle.com/2021/07/they-were-children-seattles-st-james-cathedral-vandalized-in-protest-over-residential-school-graves/>

July 1: Statue of Blessed Virgin Mary holding baby Jesus vandalized and stolen (Holy Rosary Church, Jersey City, NJ)

<https://www.nj.com/hudson/2021/07/statue-in-front-of-downtown-jersey-city-catholic-church-is-vandalized.html>

June 2021

June 30: Graffiti painted on exterior of church (Holy Ghost Catholic Church, Denver, CO)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/248198/historic-denver-church-vandalized-motive-unclear>

June 19: Fire started at front door of church (St. Veronica's Catholic Church, Philadelphia, PA)

<https://www.fox29.com/news/police-seek-accused-vandals-caught-on-camera-setting-fire-at-church-in-north-philly>

June 8: Graffiti spray-painted on exterior of church (Immaculate Conception Church, Queens, NY)

<https://thetablet.org/graffiti-found-on-queens-church-investigation-ongoing/>

June 4: Man caught on camera vandalizing doors and stained glass (St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, Port Charlotte, FL)

<https://www.mysuncoast.com/2021/06/04/charlotte-deputies-looking-school-vandal/>

May 2021

May 27: Audio equipment stolen and multiple fire extinguishers deployed inside the church (Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, Leavenworth, WA)

<https://www.kpq.com/ccso-deputies-looking-for-info-on-church-vandal/>

May 17: Statue of baby Jesus decapitated (Diocese of Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY)

<https://www.brooklynpaper.com/brooklyn-diocese-police-act-of-vandalism/>

May 15: Statues of Our Lady of Carmel and the Sacred Heart of Jesus vandalized (Our Lady of Mount Carmel-St. Benedicta-St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Staten Island, NY)

<https://www.cny.org/stories/cardinal-offers-prayers-after-vandalism-of-statues-at-staten-island-church,22418>

May 14: Large crucifix toppled and smashed, American flag burned (St. Athanasius Catholic Church, Brooklyn, NY)

<https://abc7ny.com/brooklyn-church-vandalize-bensonhurst-vandalized/10635147/>

May 8-9: Statue of Jesus Christ vandalized (St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Narragansett, RI)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/247654/rhode-island-statue-of-jesus-vandalized>

May 8: Rocks thrown through stained glass windows (Our Lady of Grace, Everett, MA)

<http://reverejournal.com/2021/05/19/our-lady-of-grace-church-vandalized/>

May 6: Stained glass windows broken, statue of San Juan Diego vandalized (Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Riverside, CA)

<https://www.pe.com/2021/05/07/church-windows-statue-vandalized-in-jurupa-valley/>

May 5: Statue of Polish priest vandalized (McCarren Park, Brooklyn, NY)

<https://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/nyc-crime/ny-statue-polish-priest-vandalized-20210505-torjkchsnnamrpvuq3dhkxtbuq-story.html>

May 4: *Update on fire at Mission San Gabriel Arcángel in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles - "Man Charged with Arson in San Gabriel Mission Fire"*

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-05-04/man-charged-with-arson-in-san-gabriel-mission-fire>

May 2-3: Statue of Jesus Christ decapitated (St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, Waltham, MA)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/247582/christ-statue-at-massachusetts-church-vandalized>

April 2021

April 26: Man smashed face of Our Lady of Guadalupe with a sledgehammer (St. Elisabeth Catholic Church, Van Nuys, CA)

<https://ktla.com/news/local-news/man-caught-on-camera-vandalizing-van-nuys-church/>

April 17 or 18: Statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. John, spray painted (Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Woodland, CA)

<https://catholic-sf.org/news/two-parishes-in-the-sacramento-diocese-vandalized>

April 17 or 18: Statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary spray painted (St. John Vianney, Rancho Cordova, CA)

<https://catholic-sf.org/news/two-parishes-in-the-sacramento-diocese-vandalized>

April 16 or 17: Face of statue of Jesus vandalized (St. Mary's Cathedral, Fargo, ND)

<https://www.twincities.com/2021/04/19/vandals-jesus-statue-fargo-cathedral-catholic/>

April 15: Statues of three female saints vandalized (Holy Rosary Church, Woodland, CA)

<https://fox40.com/news/local-news/saint-statues-at-woodland-church-vandalized/>

April 1: Gunshots fired at abbey of Benedictines of Mary, Queen of the Apostles (Abbey of Our Lady of Ephesus, Gower, MO)

<https://www.pillarcatholic.com/p/missouri-nuns-targeted-in-multiple>

March 2021

March 22: Fire at St. Charles Catholic School is being investigated as possible arson (St. Charles Catholic Church, Spokane, WA)

<https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2021/mar/18/fire-at-st-charles-elementary-school-causes-signif/>

March 12: Unkown substance inserted into locks, statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary knocked down (St. Teresa of Calcutta Church, St. John Paul II Academy, and St. Monica-St. Augustine Catholic Church, Boston, MA)

<https://www.bostonherald.com/2021/03/14/two-boston-churches-vandalized-again-its-unsettling/>

March 2: Vandals damaged statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Thomas the Apostle (St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, Ft. Worth, TX)

<https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/crime/article249629393.html>

February 2021

February 27: Several statues vandalized (Basilica of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Youngstown, OH)

<https://www.morningjournalnews.com/news/local-news/2021/02/vandals-destroy-religious-statues-at-youngstown-church/>

February 25: Chapel doors and statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary vandalized (St. Mary of the Knobs Catholic Church, Floyds Knobs, IN)

https://www.newsandtribune.com/news/statue-chapel-doors-vandalized-at-floyds-knobs-church/article_1dc1ff24-779d-11eb-91f8-dbc430835938.html

February 16: Statue and flower pots around altar damaged (St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Denver, CO)

<https://kdvr.com/news/video-shows-vandal-smashing-objects-inside-southwest-denver-church/>

February 10: Three angel statues toppled and broken (St. Pius X, El Paso, TX)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/vandalism-outside-el-paso-catholic-church-damages-three-angel-statues-15588>

January 2021

January 29: Statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe shot six times (Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Houston, TX)

<https://abc13.com/virgin-mary-statue-vandalized-church-vandalism-queen-of-peace-catholic/10127442/>

January 19: Graffiti and arson at Cathedral (Rosary Cathedral, Toledo, OH)

<https://www.13abc.com/2021/01/18/officials-investigating-arson-case-at-rosary-cathedral/>

January 1: Cathedral tagged with anti-police graffiti (St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, NY)

<https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/nypd-vandals-tagged-st-patricks-cathedral-during-new-years-protest/2807917/>

December 2020

December 28: Stained glass windows vandalized (Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, Fall River, MA)

<https://www.heraldnews.com/story/news/crime/2020/12/28/vandal-damages-windows-st-marys-cathedral-and-police-looking-person-interest/4065801001/>

December 25: Nativity scene vandalized on Christmas morning (St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Indianapolis, IN)

<https://fox59.com/news/downtown-church-nativity-scene-vandalized-on-christmas-day/>

December 11: Front entrance to site graffitied (Mission San Juan Capistrano, San Juan Capistrano, CA)

<https://www.foxla.com/news/vandals-strike-244-year-old-church-in-orange-county>

December 6: Church buildings and bathroom spray-painted (St. Louis Catholic Church, Houma, LA)

<https://www.houmatoday.com/story/news/2020/12/09/catholic-church-vandalized-bayou-blue/6507201002/>

December 2: Multiple incidents of vandalism including topping of statues, tearing down stations of the cross (St. Joseph Catholic Church, Derry, PA)

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/derry-church-is-target-of-repeated-vandalism/>

November 2020

November 23: Statue of Jesus smashed with rock, two other statues decapitated and pushed into sewer drain, garden set on fire with accelerant (St. Bernard Catholic Church, Sunrise, FL)

<https://wsvn.com/news/local/broward/man-destroys-3-statues-from-sunrise-catholic-church-shoves-2-down-sewer-drain/>

November 15: Apparent arson attack (Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Brewster, WA)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/two-churches-in-washington-state-burn-in-apparent-arson-attacks-71032>

November 10: Portrait of St. Pope John Paul II defaced (St. Gabriel Elementary School, Milford, CT)

<https://www.ctpost.com/policereports/article/Police-Pope-John-Paul-II-portrait-defaced-at-15717317.php>

November 9: Statue of Mary graffitied, “God is dead” spray-painted on church exterior (St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Chicago, IL)

<https://abc7chicago.com/saint-marys-catholic-church-south-side-vandalized-vandals/7786481/>

November 8: Head of Jesus stolen from crucifix (Mother Cabrini Catholic Church, Shamokin, PA)

<https://fox56.com/news/local/vandals-ruin-statue-at-shamokin-catholic-church-police-investigating>

October 2020

October 25: Altar vandalized (St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church, Louisville, KY)

<https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/local/2020/10/27/man-broke-into-louisville-catholic-church-vandalized-altar/3749162001/>

October 22: Statue of Mary toppled (St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Scranton, PA)

<https://www.wnep.com/article/news/local/lackawanna-county/statue-mary-st-peter-and-paul-scranton-vandalism/523-c6aa82e9-7a12-4388-a804-691f576781df>

October 21: Statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Jesus Christ found toppled; gardens surrounding the statues were also damaged. (St. Germaine Catholic Church, Prescott Valley, AZ)

<https://gcmaz.com/prescott-valley-police-looking-for-information-into-recent-church-vandalism/>

October 20: Statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary found vandalized; left hand was cut off, and there was a crack along her head. (Resurrection Roman Catholic Church, Brooklyn, NY)

<https://brooklynreporter.com/2020/10/virgin-mary-statue-vandalized-outside-church/>

October 19: Pro-life display vandalized. The display consists of 150 small white crosses and a banner, which were knocked down. (Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Magnolia, AR)

http://www.magnoliareporter.com/news_and_business/local_news/article_40c24c66-138b-11eb-9d34-87aaf5ed6624.html

October 12: Statue of Junipero Serra defaced and pulled down (Mission San Rafael Arcángel, San Rafael, CA)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/st-junipero-serra-statue-defaced-pulled-down-on-indigenous-peoples-day-48874>

September 2020

September 29: Statues of Joseph, Mary, and infant Jesus decapitated, heads carried away (St. Joseph Cupertino Catholic Church, Fall River, MA)

<https://www.heraldnews.com/news/20201001/fall-river-man-charged-in-cathedral-break-in-also-suspected-of-decapitating-holy-statues>

September 29: Rocks, cinderblocks thrown through windows of Catholic church, decapitated heads of holy family statues found on site (Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, Fall River, MA)

<https://www.heraldnews.com/news/20201001/fall-river-man-charged-in-cathedral-break-in-also-suspected-of-decapitating-holy-statues>

September 26: Churches graffitied with swastikas, “White Power,” upside down crosses, “BLM,” and “Biden 2020” (St. Peter’s Chaldean Catholic Cathedral and Our Mother of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, El Cajon, CA)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/chaldean-catholic-cathedral-vandalized-in-san-diego-with-white-power-blm-and-swastikas-29343>

September 24: Man with baseball bat damages crucifix, doors at Catholic seminary (Assumption Seminary, San Antonio, TX)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/vandal-takes-baseball-bat-to-catholic-seminary-in-texas-but-none-harmed-63146>

September 23: Man breaks church windows, sets pews on fire (Incarnation Catholic Church, Town ’n’ Country, FL)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/pastor-urges-prayer-forgiveness-after-florida-man-tries-to-burn-down-incarnation-catholic-church-71890>

September 15: Statue of Jesus topped, beheaded (St. Patrick Cathedral, El Paso, TX)

<https://kvia.com/news/crime/2020/09/15/jesus-statue-decapitated-in-brazen-vandalism-attack-at-el-pasos-st-patricks-cathedral/>

September 13-14: Statue of St. Therese toppled, beheaded; parish office burglarized (St. Therese of the Child Jesus Catholic Church, Midvale, UT)

<https://www.abcactionnews.com/news/national/catholic-church-parish-in-utah-vandalized-burglarized-on-back-to-back-nights>

September 11: Statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe toppled (Shrine Church of Our Lady of Solace, Brooklyn, NY)

<https://newyork.cbslocal.com/2020/09/16/caught-on-video-man-topples-statue-of-virgin-mary-outside-brooklyn-church-in-broad-daylight/>

September 9: Statues damaged and beheaded, windows broken (Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Tioga, LA)

<https://www.thetowntalk.com/story/news/2020/09/10/tioga-louisiana-crime-catholic-church-vandalism-destruction/3458492001/>

August 2020

August 25: Anti-religious graffiti spray-painted on Catholic Church site during protests over police shooting of Jacob Blake (St. James Church, Kenosha, WI)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/kenosha-catholics-praying-for-peace-after-third-night-of-violence-37993>

August 24: Attempted beheading of statue of Mary (Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Allentown, PA)

<https://www.mcall.com/news/local/mc-nws-allentown-virign-mary-statue-vandalized-20200903-tq62vv3peffvi5fpa6klaj7fu-story.html>

August 17: Statue of Mary beheaded, swastika spray-painted on Ten Commandments (Holy Family Parish, Citrus Heights, CA)

<https://www.sacbee.com/news/local/crime/article245142440.html>

August 9: Statue of St. Jude beheaded (Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine, Denver, CO)

<https://kdvr.com/news/vandals-behead-st-jude-statue-outside-historic-denver-church/>

August 8: Deconsecrated church destroyed in suspected arson (Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Wounded Knee, SD)

<https://www.newscenter1.tv/ostdps-investigating-possible-arson-in-burning-of-wounded-knee-churches/>

August 3: Fires set at church entrance (Sacred Heart Church, Weymouth, MA)

<https://whdh.com/news/firefighters-believe-molotov-cocktail-was-thrown-at-weymouth-church/>

July 2020

July 18-19: Abortion monument toppled (Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, Bloomingburg, NY)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/weekend-sees-more-attacks-on-catholic-church-statues-across-us-26486>

July 15: Satanic and anarchist symbols painted on the front door of the church (St. Joseph's Catholic Church, New Haven, CT)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/satanic-symbol-painted-at-church-in-parish-where-knights-of-columbus-began-17819>

- **Statement, Archdiocese of Hartford:** (“This follows an apparent trend of desecrating Catholic spaces throughout the nation, as evidenced by incidents in Chattanooga, Queens, Boston, Sacramento, and Ocala.”)

https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=3244843232238777&id=424801330909662

July 14-15: Outdoor statue of Jesus knocked over and beheaded (Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Miami, FL)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/catholic-church-statues-continue-to-be-attacked-in-florida-and-colorado-38551>

- **Statement, Archdiocese of Miami:** “Archbishop Thomas Wenski is requesting that police investigate this incident as a hate crime.”
https://www.miamiarch.org/CatholicDiocese.php?op=Article_15954448196450

July 14: Statue of St. Mary painted red (St. Mary’s Cathedral, Colorado Springs, CO)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/catholic-church-statues-continue-to-be-attacked-in-florida-and-colorado-38551>

July 13: Statue of St. Mary beheaded (St. Stephen Catholic Church, Chattanooga, TN)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/statue-of-virgin-mary-beheaded-at-tennessee-catholic-parish-74407>

July 11-12: Outdoor statue of St. Mary burned (St. Peter’s Parish, Dorchester, MA)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/statues-of-mary-vandalized-in-weekend-of-church-attacks-24779>

- **Statement, Archdiocese of Boston:** <https://www.bostoncatholic.org/news/july-13-2020-statement-regarding-vandalism-virgin-mary-statue-st-peters-parish-dorchester>

July 11: Man crashed minivan through church door, poured gasoline on the foyer and lit it on fire. People were inside the church, preparing for Mass. (Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Ocala, FL)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/arrest-made-in-ocala-florida-catholic-church-burning-21535>

July 11: Fire at 249-year-old church destroyed the roof, pews, and more (Mission San Gabriel Arcángel, San Gabriel, CA)

<https://angelusnews.com/local/la-catholics/after-a-devastating-fire-mission-san-gabriel-community-vows-to-rebuild>

- **Letter, Archbishop of Los Angeles, Jose Gomez** <https://uccla.org/news/letter-from-archbishop-gomez-regarding-the-mission-san-gabriel-fire>

July 10: Outdoor statue of St. Mary spray painted with word “IDOL” (Cathedral Prep School and Seminary, Elmhurst, NY)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/statues-of-mary-vandalized-in-weekend-of-church-attacks-24779>

- **Press release, Diocese of Brooklyn** <https://dioceseofbrooklyn.org/news/statue-of-blessed-mother-vandalized-at-cathedral-prep>

July 5-6: Crucifix at roadside shrine smashed (St. Bernadette Catholic Church, Rockford, IL)

<http://observer.rockforddiocese.org/article?id=1808>

July 3: Outdoor statue of St. Mary beheaded and hands severed (St. Ann Catholic Parish, Gary, IN)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/weekend-sees-more-attacks-on-catholic-church-statues-across-us-26486>

June 2020

June 22: At a Catholic college's on-campus cemetery for deceased priests who taught at the school, a man defaced gravestones by painting swastikas and anti-Catholic language, burned some American flags that were next to the graves, and assaulted a college security guard (Providence College, Providence, RI)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/cross-and-graves-vandalized-with-swastika-at-catholic-university-cemetery-78172>

- **Statement by Providence College President, Rev. Brian J. Shanley, OP, and President-elect, Rev. Kenneth R. Sicard, OP:** <https://news.providence.edu/statement-on-vandalism-at-dominican-cemetery>

May 2020

May 30-31: Church exterior damaged over multiple nights, including smashed gates, graffiti with messages such as "God is dead" and "There is no God," and windows shattered by rocks (Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Denver, CO)

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/cathedrals-in-6-states-damaged-by-violent-protests-91111>

May 30: Church exterior graffitied with "prosecute killer cops," "ACAB" [All Cops Are Bastards], "Kill all cops," and "Make America pay for its crimes against Black lives" (Our Lady of Mt. Lebanon-St. Peter Cathedral, Los Angeles, CA)

<https://www.the961.com/lebanese-church-los-angeles-vandalized>

May 29: Thrown rocks shattered rectory windows (Cathedral of the Assumption, Louisville, KY)

<https://www.americamagazine.org/politics-society/2020/06/01/louisville-cathedral-damaged-protests-over-floyd-death-turn-violent>

May 29: Exterior damaged, including thrown rocks shattering windows (St. Jude Chapel, Dallas, TX)

<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/2020/05/30/dallas-businesses-hit-in-violent-protests-over-racial-injustice>

May 28: Someone broke into the church and poured flammable liquid under the pews, lighting a fire that damaged pews and the floor (Basilica of St. Mary, Minneapolis, MN)

<https://www.mary.org/blog/202006/message-fr-john-bauer-justice-reconciliation-and-peace#.XxscoJ5KgdU>

May 6: Pulpit, altar, and statue damaged (St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Casper, WY)

<https://oilcity.news/crime/2020/05/08/suspect-arrested-in-25000-casper-church-vandalism/>