



Hostility Against Churches Is on the Rise in the United States

Analyzing Incidents from 2018-2023

by Arielle Del Turco, M.A.

Key Points

Over the past six years (2018-2023), FRC has identified 915 acts of hostility against churches in the United States.

Between January and November 2023, at least 436 acts of hostility against churches took place in the United States, more than double the number FRC identified in 2022.

From January to November 2023, there were at least 315 occurrences of vandalism, 75 arson attacks or attempts, 10 gun-related incidents, 20 bomb threats, and 37 other incidents. Seventeen incidents fell into multiple categories.

Criminal acts of vandalism and destruction of church property may be symptomatic of a collapse in societal reverence and respect for houses of worship and religion.

Summary

Over the past several years, Family Research Council has been tracking acts of hostility against churches in the United States.

Between January 2018 and November 2023, at least 915 acts of hostility occurred. The types of acts include vandalism, arson, gun-related incidents, bomb threats, and more.

In 2023, Family Research Council identified 436 incidents—more than double the number identified in 2022 and more than eight times the number identified in 2018. These findings suggest that hostility against U.S. churches is not only on the rise but also accelerating.

Acts of hostility against churches are destructive and have the potential to intimidate a religious community. Therefore, they deserve to be condemned.

Introduction

Due to the perceived increase in acts of hostility against churches in the United States, Family Research Council set out to analyze publicly available data to better understand the problem and determine whether there has been a statistically significant increase over time. The inaugural report of our findings was published in December 2022 and covered incidents that occurred between January 2018 and September 2022.

Since the launch of that initial report, FRC has continued to track acts of hostility against U.S. churches. This updated report covers the past six years (2018-2023). Our findings suggest that the rise in hostility we identified in our December 2022 report has neither slowed nor plateaued; rather, it has accelerated. This could be due in part to increased public reporting on crimes against churches, resulting in more available data than in the past.

Although the motivations for many of these incidents remain unknown, the rise in crimes against churches is taking place in a context in which American culture appears increasingly hostile to Christianity. Criminal acts of vandalism and destruction of church property may be symptomatic of a collapse in societal reverence and respect for houses of worship and religion—in this case, churches and Christianity. Americans appear increasingly comfortable lashing out against church buildings, pointing to a larger societal problem of marginalizing core Christian beliefs, including those that touch on hot-button political issues related to human dignity and sexuality. Attacks on houses of worship may also signal a discomfort with religion in general.

For congregants and clergy, acts of hostility against their churches can be intimidating. For example, when a statue of Mary outside of a Catholic church is beheaded, it is natural for congregants to feel disturbed and upset, and that may be the vandal's aim. Acts of hostility against churches can send the message—regardless of whether it is the perpetrator's intent—that churches are not wanted in the community or respected in general. This may cause congregants or church leaders to feel unsafe. In some instances, the goal of the hostility is undoubtedly to interrupt the normal work of the church.

The free exercise of religion has always been an essential component of American society and is enshrined in the U.S. Constitution as a basic right. Attempts to prevent religious exercise through threats or violence should be soundly condemned by anyone who values the First Amendment.

Overview of Findings

In December 2022, FRC released an extensive publication documenting a sharp rise in acts of hostility against churches in the United States. In that initial report, we identified a total of 420 documented acts of hostility that occurred between January 2018 and September 2022. The types of acts identified included vandalism, arson, gun-related incidents, bomb threats, and more.

Since the launch of that initial report, FRC has continued to track acts of hostility against churches. This updated report covers the past six years (2018-2023).

Over the Past Six Years

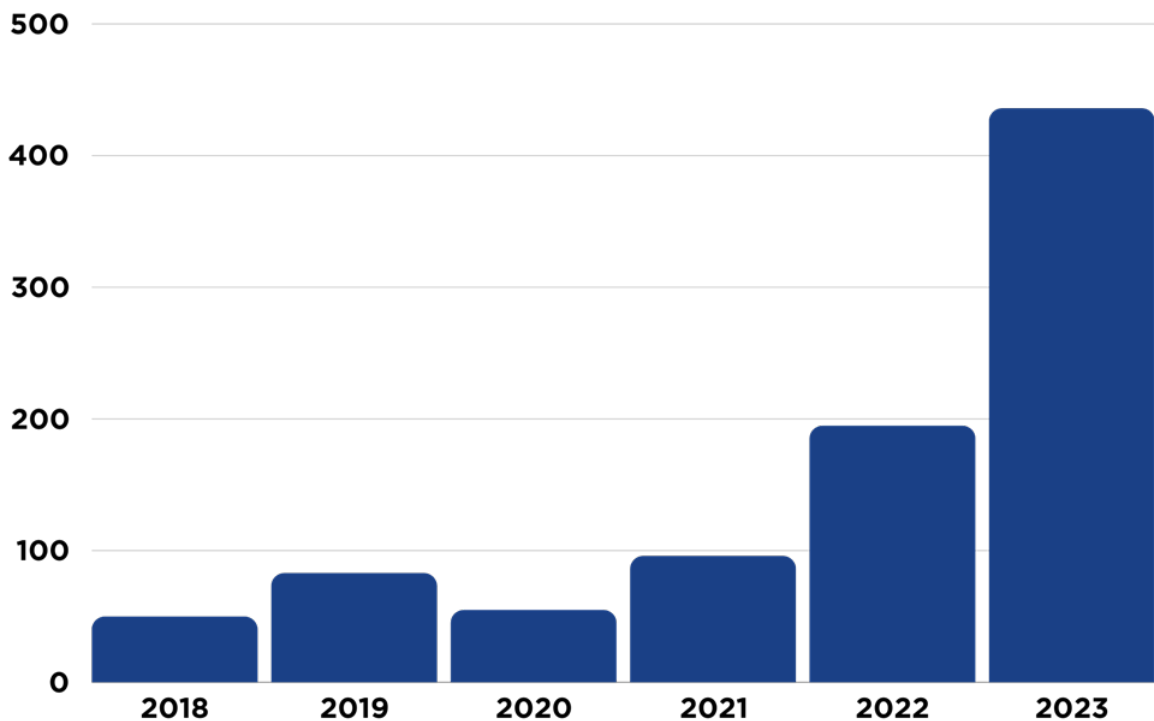
To conduct this research, FRC analyzed open-source documents, reports, and media outlets to assess the number of acts of hostility against churches that have taken place since 2018. We looked at incidents of vandalism (including the destruction, defacement, ransacking, and theft of property), arson, and arson attempts. Gun-related incidents that took place on church property and bomb threats (including false ones) made against churches were also included.

Most of the incidents identified were acts of vandalism. From January 2018 to November 2023, there were at least 709 occurrences of vandalism, 135 arson attacks or attempts, 22 gun-related incidents, 32 bomb threats, and 61 other incidents (assault, threats, interruption of worship services, etc.). In 39 cases, multiple types of hostility occurred (*e.g.*, vandalism and arson).

Acts of hostility against churches occurred throughout the country, in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. States with higher populations tended to report a greater number of incidents. California had the most incidents, with 91. Texas had 62 incidents, New York had 58, and Florida had 47. Delaware, New Hampshire, and Vermont had the fewest number of incidents, with one apiece.

In the reporting period of 2023, which spanned from January to November, FRC identified 436 acts of hostility against churches for those 11 months alone. This was more than double the number of incidents in all 12 months of 2022, which was 195. It also marked the second consecutive year that saw more than twice the number of incidents of the year before. There were at least 96 incidents in 2021, 55 in 2020, 83 in 2019, and 50 in 2018. Over the entire reporting period for this report, from 2018 to 2023, acts of hostility appear to have increased in frequency over time.

Incidents per year, January 2018–November 2023

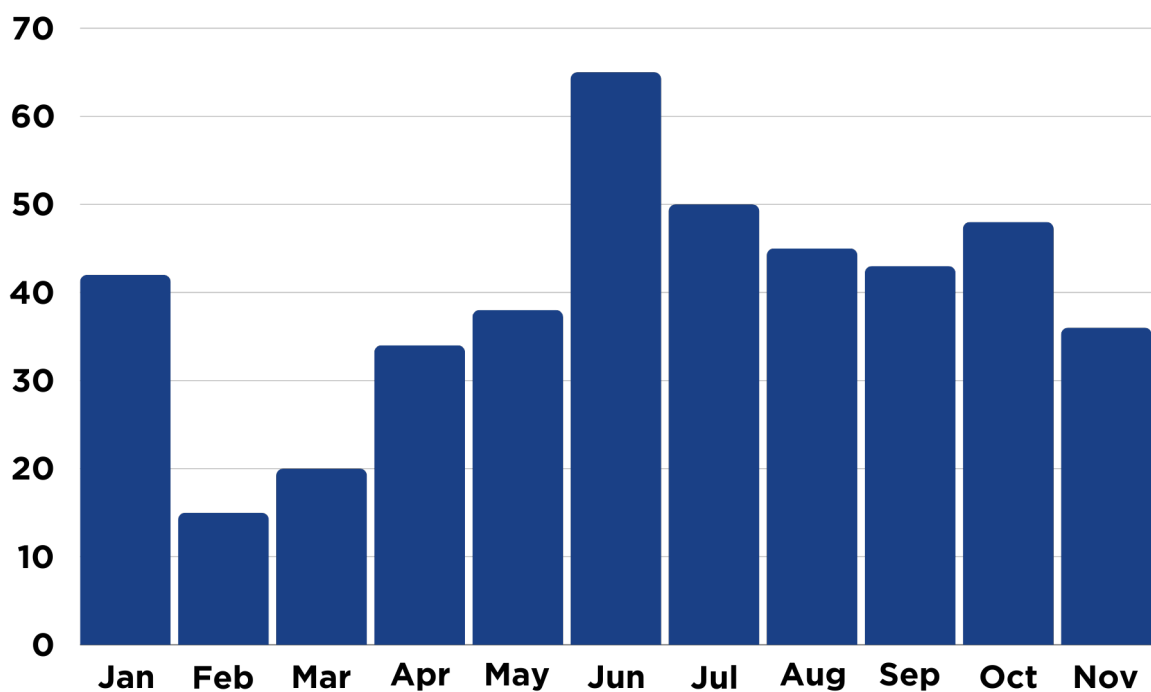


Focusing on 2023

The year 2023 saw more acts of hostility against churches than any of the previous five years, continuing an upward trend. According to FRC’s monitoring of publicly available data, at least 436 acts of hostility against churches took place between January and November 2023.

The number of incidents was fairly consistent throughout the year, with an average of about 39 per month. However, there was a slight peak in the summer when June saw 65 incidents and July 50.

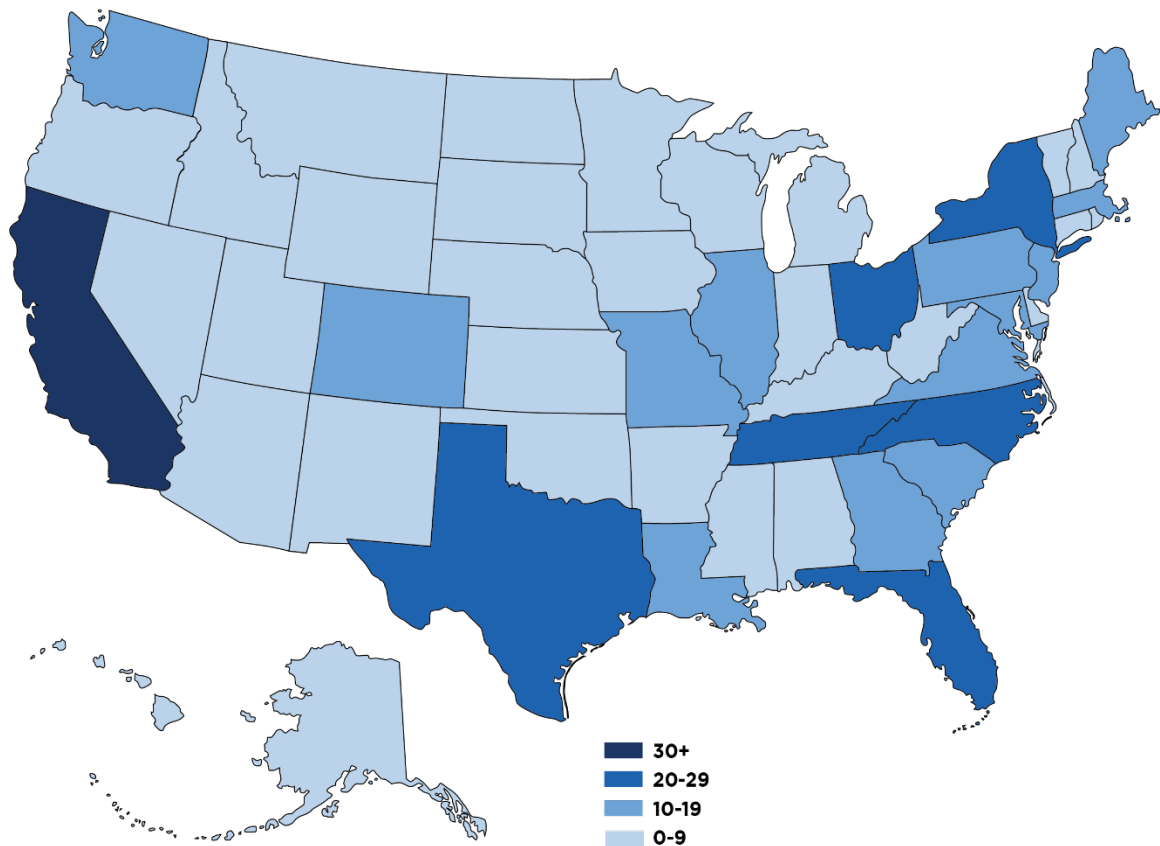
Incidents per month, January 2023–November 2023



Acts of hostility against churches were widespread in 2023, taking place in 48 states and the District of Columbia. Like the past several years, there were more acts of hostility against churches in states with larger populations. California had the most incidents, with 33. Texas had 28 incidents; Tennessee had

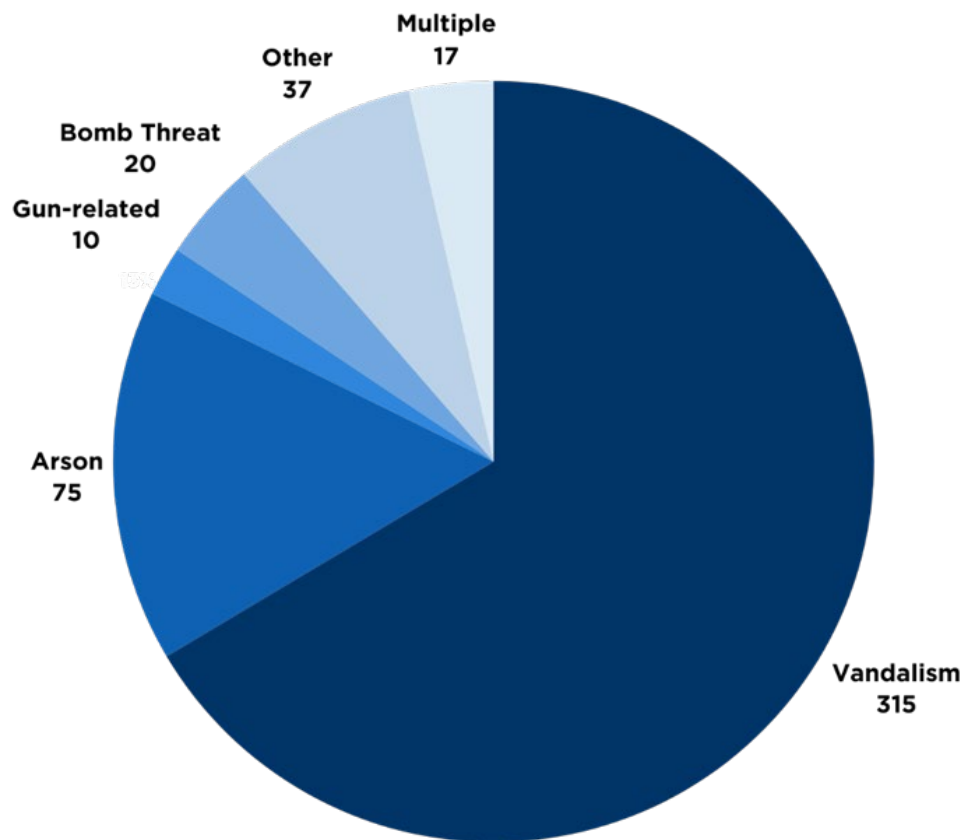
26; Ohio had 24; Florida had 23; and New York and North Carolina each had 22. Hawaii and Wyoming had none.

Incidents per state, January 2023–November 2023



Most of these incidents were vandalism (315). There were also 75 instances of arson, arson attempts, or fires with unknown causes. In addition, there were 10 gun-related incidents, 20 bomb threats, and 37 other incidences (assault, threats, interruption of worship services, etc.). Seventeen incidents fell into more than one category, the most common combination being vandalism and arson.

Types of incidents, January 2023–November 2023



Vandalism

Acts of vandalism comprised most of the reported acts of hostility against churches in 2023, with FRC identifying 315 incidents of vandalism from January to November. The motives for most of the incidents are unknown. Some acts of vandalism against churches appeared to have been motivated by anger toward the targeted church. Other acts appeared to have a political motivation. Some incidents appeared to have been committed by juveniles or persons struggling with mental illness. Several instances of vandalism also involved theft. Many acts of vandalism against churches were under criminal investigation; a minority were under investigation as hate crimes. Police were often unable to identify the vandals.

Many of the acts of vandalism represented unexplained acts of destruction, such as rocks being thrown through a window. In January, vandals broke into Holy Nation Church of Memphis, Tennessee, smashed stained glass windows, and stole equipment the church uses to broadcast its services online. The pastor explained the situation by pointing to larger problems facing youth struggling to grapple with their own emotional distress. “I hold no ill will,” Pastor Andrew Perpener Jr. stated. “These things are just a manifestation of a greater hurt.”¹

In June, Fowler United Methodist Church of Annapolis, Maryland, was vandalized, causing \$100,000 in damages to the historically Black church. Pages were torn out of Bibles and hymnals and strewn across the floor and pews. A large wooden cross was torn down, the pew upholstery was torn, a Christian flag was removed from its stand, and the letters of the church’s outdoor sign were removed. Reverend Jerome Jones said he was urging his congregants to pray for the perpetrators: “I asked them to stand in solidarity and let us forgive those who have hurt this church and pray for them.”²

Several incidents were related to Ohio Issue 1, a ballot measure in support of amending the state constitution to protect abortion. In October, someone pulled the “Vote No” sign at Cincinnati’s St. Monica-St. George Church out of the ground and threw it in a dumpster. At St. Bartholomew Church, also in Cincinnati, between six and eight “Vote No” yard signs were removed from the church’s property and replaced with “Vote Yes” signs.³

A couple of acts of vandalism indicated anti-Israel or antisemitic sentiment following the October 7 Hamas terrorist attack against Israel. In November, a “We stand with Israel” sign on the property of The Church at Decatur Heights in Decatur, Georgia, was spray-painted over with “Israel’s Genocide.”⁴

At least 12 incidents included satanic imagery or symbols. In July, vandals broke into Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church of El Paso, Texas, and left behind satanic imagery, including writing the number “666” on multiple items. Crosses inside the church were also turned upside down, and holy oil was dumped out.⁵ In October, someone spray-painted the words “Devil Has Risen” and a symbol like a pentagram on the buildings of Jesus Worship Center in Jennings, Louisiana.⁶

Multiple church nativity scenes were targeted in January 2023. At St. Nicholas of Tolentine in the New York City borough of Queens, vandals ruined the church's nativity scene twice in the same night, destroying the lights and Plexiglass around the display. Father Thomas Joseph stated the act was from a "hatred of religion," and Father Abraham Mathew prayed that the vandals "may have healing."⁷ The nativity outside of St. Patrick's Co-Cathedral in Billings, Montana, was also destroyed in January when vandals decapitated the wise men, scattered the animals, and stole the statues of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus. Father Leo McDowell of the church wondered whether it was "some sort of a hate crime." A week later, an individual found the decapitated statues of Mary and Joseph in her building's fire escape and returned them to the church.⁸

Arson, Arson Attempts, or Fires with Unknown Causes

From January to November 2023, there were at least 75 instances of arson, attempted arson, or fires with unknown causes. In most cases, the motivation was unknown. The incidents ranged from small fires that were quickly contained to fires that completely destroyed church buildings. In June, Ascension of the Lord Romanian Orthodox Church of Hayward, California, was broken into, and several religious artifacts were set on fire, including a Bible and a crucifix. The charred items and ashes were left around an altar.⁹

In April, less than a half hour after an Easter service, a massive fire was started at Faith Lutheran Church in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The fire spread quickly and caused a great deal of damage, requiring the steeple to be removed. Thankfully, no one was hurt. The FBI investigated the fire as an arson.¹⁰

Many of these acts were deeply disturbing. In January, Portland Korean Church, a vacant 117-year-old building in Portland, Oregon, was set on fire. The 27-year-old suspect, whose legal name is Cameron Storer but who identifies as female, claimed voices in Storer's head threatened to "mutilate" Storer if Storer refused to burn the church down. The building was heavily damaged.¹¹

Gun-Related Incidents

At least 10 gun-related incidents occurred at churches in 2023. In most cases, no one was hurt. In March, four individuals shot 50 pistol rounds into Clearview Mennonite Church of Versailles, Missouri. No one was in the church at the time, but the church building suffered \$1,000 in damages from bullets shot through windows, walls, and ceilings.¹²

Bomb Threats

FRC identified 20 bomb threats (including false bomb threats) in 2023. Most cases involved fake threats being called in by phone against a church. For example, in August, a man called the suicide hotline, saying he put two backpacks with pipe bombs inside Quinn Chapel AME Church of Forest Park, Ohio. He said the bombs would detonate in 45 minutes and that he would be watching and waiting for the police to shoot him. Thankfully, authorities did not find any bombs inside the church.¹³

Other

We categorized 37 incidents as “other” in this report. These were most often threatening and/or criminal actions that did not fit into the other categories. For example, in July, a man outside of Greater Life Tabernacle Pentecostal Church in Edinburg, Texas, began yelling about “killing Christians” and cited from the Bible in his declarations.¹⁴ In October, a man entered Sacred Heart Church in Cicero, New York, and claimed to be with Hamas and made threats to the staff.¹⁵

Repeat and Unreported Victims

Some of the churches featured in this report are repeat targets of hostility. Oftentimes, a news report about a hostility incident will mention previous occurrences at that church. However, unless a specific date or month is supplied by the publicly available data, those previous incidents are not included in this report since there is no way of accurately counting them or pinpointing when exactly they occurred.

At least 59 of the churches in this report are repeat victims with verifiable timeframes of the incidents. Churches that have multiple incidents ascribed to them in our findings are denoted by an asterisk (*).

It is important to note that this report is not comprehensive. Many acts of hostility against churches are likely not reported to authorities and/or are not featured in the news or other online sources from which we collected data. Thus, the number of acts of hostility is undoubtedly much higher than the number reflected in this report. This report is intended to compile the publicly reported data and identify any trends.

The rise in acts of hostility against churches is cause for concern and reflects a larger societal trend of intolerance toward religion and Christianity specifically. Family Research Council hopes this report draws attention to the problem of acts of hostility against churches in America and offers insights into the trends surrounding this issue. The following are the incidents identified in FRC's research, spanning January 2018 through November 2023.

2023

St. Jude Missionary Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee: January 2023

A man was caught on camera shattering stained glass windows that were over a century old. He also took from the food pantry. The destruction and theft totaled in the thousands of dollars.¹⁶

Washington Chapel, Parkville, Missouri: January 2023

Vandals broke stained glass windows, rummaged through the sanctuary, and damaged the church in other ways, including breaking a window that is the only surviving item from a chapel building that was destroyed by a fire in the 1870s. The historic church was rebuilt in 1907 by former slaves and is one of the oldest remaining African Methodist Episcopal churches in the West. Many pieces of the glass window were later returned, causing some congregants to believe that the vandals had experienced a change of heart.¹⁷

Portland Korean Church, Portland, Oregon: January 3, 2023

A vacant 117-year-old church building was set on fire. The suspect, whose legal name is Cameron Storer but who identifies as female, claimed voices in Storer's head threatened to "mutilate" Storer if Storer refused to burn the church down.¹⁸

Convent Baptist Church, Leesville, South Carolina: January 5, 2023

A church bus was completely burned to its frame. The fire caused \$77,000 in damages to the bus and an additional \$15,000 in damages to the church building.¹⁹

St. Nicholas of Tolentine, New York, New York: January 5, 2023

The church's nativity scene was vandalized twice in the same night.²⁰

Subiaco Abbey Church of St. Benedict, Subiaco, Arkansas: January 5, 2023

A man vandalized the marble altar with a hammer, and stole two boxes containing 1,500-year-old relics. The suspect was arrested after returning to the church with hammers covered in marble dust.²¹

Bright Light Baptist Church, Takoma Park, Maryland: January 7, 2023

A person threw rocks through a stained glass window.²²

Holy Nation Church, Memphis, Tennessee: January 7, 2023*

Vandals smashed stained glass windows, stole broadcast equipment, deployed fire extinguishers, and spray-painted gang signs. It was the second time the church had been vandalized in one month. It was estimated that it would cost over \$30,000 to repair the damages.²³

St. Mary Catholic Church, Escondido, California: January 9-10, 2023*

The church was vandalized on consecutive days by the same man. On the first day, he threw a bottle at a statue of Mary, damaging it. On the second day, he threw an object at the church door's glass windows, shattering them.²⁴

Holy Rosary Church, Edmonds, Washington: January 10, 2023

Vandals cut down trees and shrubs on church property that were planted along a streambank as part of an effort to rehabilitate the salmon habitat.²⁵

Alpha and Omega Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina: January 12, 2023

Vandals broke in and trashed the building as part of a string of attacks against local churches.²⁶

Dellabrook Presbyterian Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina: January 12, 2023*

Vandals broke in and trashed the building as part of a string of attacks against local churches.²⁷

Dreamland Park Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina: January 12, 2023

Vandals broke in and trashed the building as part of a string of attacks against local churches.²⁸

Greater Tabernacle Worship Center, Winston-Salem, North Carolina: January 12, 2023

Vandals broke in and trashed the building as part of a string of attacks against local churches. The building sustained over \$15,000 in damages, including damage to the sound system, monitors, light fixtures, glass doors, keyboard, and furniture.²⁹

St. Paul United Methodist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina: January 12, 2023

Vandals broke in and trashed the building as part of a string of attacks against local churches.³⁰

St. Agnes Catholic Church, Blackwood, New Jersey: January 13, 2023

A vandal threw a brick at a stained glass window and set a flagpole on fire as part of a string of attacks against local churches.³¹

St. Patrick Catholic Church, Woodbury, New Jersey: January 13, 2023

A vandal attempted to burn a cross on the church's front lawn as part of a string of attacks against local churches.³²

St. Teresa Catholic Church, Runnemede, New Jersey: January 13, 2023

A vandal threw a brick at a stained glass windows as part of a string of attacks against local churches.³³

Word of God Ministries, Shreveport, Louisiana: January 13, 2023

An individual brought a five-gallon can of gas into the church and lit it on fire. Thanks to the fire department's quick response, the church only suffered water damage.³⁴

Central Christian Church, Billings, Montana: January 16, 2023

A vandal smashed a window with a rock to break in, then took keys out of a mailbox, opened an office door, and disconnected the camera wires. The individual filled out a sign-in sheet for cookies and wrote, "I watch out 4 you all" signed "God" on a piece of paper.³⁵

St. Patrick's Co-Cathedral, Billings, Montana: January 16, 2023

Vandals destroyed a nativity scene outside of the church by decapitating the wise men, scattering animals, and stealing the statues of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus. A week later, a woman found the decapitated statues of Mary and Joseph in her building's fire escape and returned them to the church.³⁶

Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Billings, Montana: January 17, 2023

Vandals stole three statues and a few paintings, damaged artwork, and spray-painted the phrase "Mary is the whore of Babylon." The stolen pieces were worth around \$8,300, and there were \$4,000 in damages.³⁷

St. Rosalia Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: January 18, 2023

Someone vandalized the church's monument to unborn children with spray paint. The vandalism happened in advance of the March for Life, giving reason to believe that it was retaliation against the pro-life movement.³⁸

Abiding Love Lutheran Church, Loveland, Colorado: January 19, 2023

A man broke a church window and started a fire near the church entrance and a second fire in the basement.³⁹

Miami Lakes United Methodist Church, Miami Lakes, Florida: January 19, 2023

A rock was thrown through a church window. A similar incident happened at another church in the same town.⁴⁰

Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church, Miami Lakes, Florida: January 19, 2023

Someone threw a rock through a church window and then ran away. A similar incident happened at another church in the same town.⁴¹

San Pablo Catholic Church, Marathon, Florida: January 19, 2023

A sculpture of the baby Jesus was stolen from the church's nativity scene. Two additional statues were vandalized, one decapitated and one with its feet removed.⁴²

Our Lady of Fatima Shrine (Diocese of Steubenville), Ironton, Ohio: January 20, 2023

Three marble statues were stolen. It was estimated that replacing the statues would cost over \$2,000.⁴³

St. Boniface Church, Cincinnati, Ohio: January 20, 2023

Vandals sprayed graffiti on the church's front doors. The doors are over 100 years old, and they did not look the same for a while, having to be sanded and cured for a few months.⁴⁴

St. Mary's Cathedral, Fargo, North Dakota: January 23, 2023*

A woman threw a statue called "Christ in Death" on the ground, damaging its head, feet, hand, crown of thorns, and base. The woman left the church half-dressed and seemingly under the influence. The statue was likely worth around \$11,500.⁴⁵

Good Shepherd Church, Fall River, Massachusetts: January 25, 2023

While the church was open for prayer, a man poured bleach on Mary's statue and threw a statue of baby Jesus down the stairs.⁴⁶

Rose Park United Methodist Church, Madison, Virginia: January 25, 2023

A man who confessed to starting a fire inside the church was charged with breaking and entering, intending to commit arson, and damaging property.⁴⁷

Gracelife Chapel, Pevely, Missouri: January 26, 2023*

The same women who threatened to blow up the church in April 2022 sent a threatening text message to one of the church's employees, saying, "I will make your church go bye bye" and that it "wouldn't be the first time I cause a building to go bye bye." The woman also said she would be in the church's parking lot on January 29. She was charged with first-degree harassment.⁴⁸

Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral, Chicago, Illinois: January 26, 2023

Three of the church's stained glass windows were broken by rocks. The church is historic for its architectural design by Louis Sullivan and having been partially funded by Russian Czar Nicholas II in the early 1900s.⁴⁹

Southern Baptist Church, Cincinnati, Ohio: January 26, 2023

Doors were broken and items from the children's nursery and the kitchen were stolen, along with the refrigerator's contents. Cameras caught the break-in, but the face of the perpetrator could not be seen.⁵⁰

St. Stephen Catholic Church, Riverview, Florida: January 26, 2023

Two pro-life banners were vandalized outside of the church. The banners, which stated "Abortion stops a beating heart," were painted over with "Women's body, women's choice" and "Pro-choice, save the mom." The church had been collecting items for mothers in need while the banners were up. A spokesman for the church stated, "We take care of women who are pregnant, and we aren't the only church who does that."⁵¹

Trinity Episcopal Church, Asbury Park, New Jersey: January 27, 2023

An anti-racism concert at the church was disrupted by a man throwing smoke bombs, pepper-spraying the crowd, and yelling, "White lives matter."⁵²

St. Paul United Methodist Church, Lincoln, Nebraska: January 28, 2023

Police found one of the church's glass doors shattered in a security check.⁵³

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Canton, New York: January 29, 2023

Three 100-year-old statues were stolen. The statues were later found damaged on a college campus.⁵⁴

First Presbyterian Church, Port Gibson, Mississippi: January 31, 2023

A vandal overturned pews, the baptismal font, and communion table, tilted the pulpit back, and damaged the piano, organ, and two 120-year-old stained glass windows. The historic church was open for tourists at the time, allowing the vandal to enter.⁵⁵

Jesus Is Alive World Center, Reading, Pennsylvania: February 4, 2023

Vandals ransacked every room in the church, ruining sound equipment, a piano, a television, and 100-year-old stained glass windows. They also deployed fire extinguishers, ruining the carpets.⁵⁶

Old Philadelphia Church, Izard County, Arkansas: February 4, 2023

Satanic symbols were spray-painted on the church, including multiple inverted crosses and a pentagram. The church was built in 1858 and is the oldest in the county.⁵⁷

Bullion United Methodist Church, Kirksville, Missouri: February 5, 2023

The abandoned church was burned to the ground in a suspected arson. Firemen were only able to protect the headstones in the church cemetery and a historic tree nearby.⁵⁸

Grace Lutheran Church, New York, New York: February 5, 2023

A vandal damaged the church's glass door with a rock.⁵⁹

Walnut Street Baptist Church, Carbondale, Illinois: February 6, 2023

The vacant church building burned in what the police determined was an act of arson.⁶⁰

New Mount Zion Old Regular Baptist Church, Attica, Ohio: February 10, 2023

Vandals broke into the church and caused significant damage to the chapel. One adult and five juveniles were arrested.⁶¹

Our Lady of the Visitation, Darnestown, Maryland: February 10, 2023

A statue of Mary was stolen in what congregants suspect was a prank gone wrong.⁶²

Cornerstone Baptist Church, Wellston, Oklahoma: February 13-15, 2023

A church door was vandalized multiple times on consecutive days. The small congregation could not easily pay for the repairs that cost between \$1,500-\$1,800.⁶³

Dellabrook Presbyterian Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina: February 14, 2023*

Vandals sprayed a fire extinguisher all over the church and into the ventilation system, causing \$40,000 in damages.⁶⁴

Providence Missionary Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia: February 19, 2023

Swastikas, racial slurs, and other offensive words were spray-painted onto the church's exterior.⁶⁵

St. Dominic Catholic Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: February 19, 2023

Police removed an 18-inch pipe bomb found behind the church. The church is one of the oldest in Philadelphia.⁶⁶

St. Helena Catholic Church, Hobbs, New Mexico: February 19, 2023

The church's exterior walls were tagged with the words "cosmo" and "bozs." Other buildings in the neighborhood were tagged with the same words.⁶⁷

Unidentified church, Nashville, Tennessee: February 21, 2023

A teenager called a bomb threat against the church, prompting police to search the building. No bomb was found, and the teen said it was a prank call.⁶⁸

First United Methodist Church, Lincoln, Nebraska: February 22, 2023

Four people ransacked the church and caused an estimated \$6,500 in damages. A fire extinguisher was sprayed, a chandelier was shattered, a Bible was shredded, ash covered the pews, and a television, electrical accessories, stained glass windows, and a pedestal were broken.⁶⁹

Fir Lawn Lutheran Church, Sweet Home, Oregon: February 25, 2023

A fire engulfed the church, causing severe damage. Police believed the building was intentionally set on fire.⁷⁰

Grace Church Worldwide Ministries, Lima, Ohio: March 2023

An individual spray-painted cars on the church's property, including one car with "KKK." The Lima Chapter of the NAACP is headquartered at the church.⁷¹

Seabury Anglican Church, Gales Ferry, Connecticut: March 2023

A man tried to break into the church by throwing a rock through a window. The same man was accused of attacking Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church.⁷²

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Louisville, Kentucky: March 3, 2023

One day after a bill was advanced in the Kentucky state legislature to protect children from gender transition procedures, "TRANS PWR" was spray-painted on the front of the church and several other buildings in the area.⁷³

Praise Temple Baptist Church, Shreveport, Louisiana: March 4, 2023

Four people were shot in the church parking lot at 1 a.m. The cause and context were unknown.⁷⁴

The Village Church of Indiantown, Indiantown, Florida: March 4, 2023

Vandals shattered mirrors and windows, overturned the organ and piano, ripped books and tracts, and ransacked the sanctuary. After the incident, other local churches helped repair the damage.⁷⁵

Goodwill Baptist Church, Austin, Texas: March 6, 2023

A fire caused an estimated \$200,000 in damages to the building, although the sanctuary mostly stayed intact. Officials considered it an act of arson.⁷⁶

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Gales Ferry, Connecticut: March 11, 2023

Cameras caught a man breaking into the church through a window, trying to get into locked rooms with a crowbar, painting the floor and wall with hateful messages, and breaking windows with bricks, rocks, and religious items from the church. The same man attacked Seabury Anglican Church.⁷⁷

Crossfire Church, Springfield, Oregon: March 12, 2023

A man sustained non-life-threatening injuries from being stabbed. The pastor believed that the incident was provoked by the perpetrator experiencing “a drug psychosis thinking that somebody with the same name had hurt his son.”⁷⁸

Bethel Church, Redding, California: March 13, 2023

A man broke into the church through a window and stole rain gear. It was not apparent whether there was any other damage or theft.⁷⁹

Clearview Mennonite Church, Versailles, Missouri: March 18, 2023

Four individuals shot 50 pistol rounds into the church. No one was harmed, but the church building suffered \$1,000 in damages. A Snapchat video showed the four people drinking beer in a car as they shot bullets out the window. Two of the perpetrators were 18 years old and the other two were juveniles.⁸⁰

Friendship United Methodist Church, Newton, North Carolina: March 18, 2023

Three carbon steel crosses were sawed off at the base in the church’s cemetery. The 14–15-foot crosses are worth at least \$3,000. The church’s trustee chair believed the vandalism could be due to controversy over Methodist churches disaffiliating over LGBTQ issues.⁸¹

Painesville Baptist Church, Painesville, Ohio: March 18, 2023

Someone spray-painted “references regarding banning religion” on the outside of the church building. The police were considering charges of ethnic intimidation.⁸²

St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church, Metairie, Louisiana: March 21-22 and April 24-25, 2023*

Four different times, a registered sex offender trespassed on church property and damaged multiple statues. The fourth time, he cracked a 100-year-old statue of Mary, causing an estimated \$4,000 in damages.⁸³

Holy Family Church, New York, New York: March 23, 2023

Three teenagers broke a statue of an angel.⁸⁴

St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Omaha, Nebraska: March 23, 2023

Someone broke the church’s stained glass windows, which are thought to be difficult or impossible to restore. It appeared to be connected to a series of vandalisms of local establishments.⁸⁵

Community Church of Chesterland, Chesterland, Ohio: March 25, 2023

Someone allegedly affiliated with a group espousing neo-Nazi views tried to burn down the church.⁸⁶

Covenant Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tennessee: March 27, 2023

A shooting at the church’s elementary school killed six people: three nine-year-old children, the school’s administrator, a substitute teacher, and a custodian. The shooter had two assault-style weapons and a handgun and broke in by shooting through the glass doors. Investigators found a manifesto, plans for the shooting, and maps of the school. The leaked manifesto contained racist slurs against white students and anger over “white privilege.”⁸⁷

Unitarian Universalist Church, Fredericksburg, Virginia: March 27, 2023

Someone blocked the front door of the church, painted over a sign, broke a post, and taped a manifesto to the front door.⁸⁸

Holy Covenant Metropolitan Community Church, Brookfield, Illinois: March 30, 2023

A vandal spray-painted over the rainbow Pride colors on the church's steps.⁸⁹

Holy Covenant United Methodist Church, Chicago, Illinois: April 2023

The church was vandalized over 20 times in one month. The perpetrators damaged or stole church welcome signs, tore down Pride flags, and left graffiti on church signs.⁹⁰

Valley Christian Church, Youngstown, Ohio: April 2023

The church's entrance door and hallway were damaged after a fire spread from outside. An 18-year-old was arrested for arson after cameras showed him lighting a bale of straw on fire outside of the church.⁹¹

Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Corona, California: April 1, 2023

A vandal was caught on camera smashing a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patron saint of the church, in half.⁹²

Midcoast Church of God, Waldoboro, Maine: April 1, 2023

A group of juveniles spray-painted the church's windows and other pieces of property in the city.⁹³

Safe Harbor Community Chapel, Waldoboro, Maine: April 1, 2023

A group of juveniles spray-painted the church and other pieces of property in the city. The vandals painted "IH8U" in the church parking lot and other messages on the windows.⁹⁴

St. Paulinus Church, Syracuse, Nebraska: April 1, 2023

A man broke several items in the church, including the altar stone, causing an estimated \$4,500 in damages.⁹⁵

Zion Lutheran Church, Red Cloud, Nebraska: April 1, 2023

Vandals broke an office door and deployed fire extinguishers, causing approximately \$3,000 in damages.⁹⁶

OD Church of the Lost and Found, North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina: April 2, 2023

Cameras caught vandals throwing chairs at the church's outdoor TV, destroying it, and damaging the security camera.⁹⁷

Armenian Evangelical Christian Church, Fresno, California: April 3, 2023

Cameras caught a man throwing rocks and shattering the church's front windows, causing an estimated \$5,000 in damages.⁹⁸

First Lutheran Church, St. Peter, Minnesota: April 5, 2023

A man used a golf club to break some of the church's windows. The man reportedly was drunk that night and thought the church was an easy target without security cameras.⁹⁹

Pentecostal Deliverance Faith Temple Church, Dothan, Alabama: April 5, 2023

A vandal attempted to break into the church. Although the perpetrator was unable to get in, the double-glass kitchen window was damaged enough to need replacing.¹⁰⁰

First Congregational Church, Portland, Oregon: April 7, 2023

On Good Friday, the church's front doors were vandalized with spray-painted symbols. Vandalism with the same spray paint was also found on a nearby Civil War memorial.¹⁰¹

Floods Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church, Spring Hope, North Carolina: April 7, 2023

The church was vandalized on Good Friday. Many windows were broken and a cross was dislodged from the ground. The church received support from the community via donations and prayers.¹⁰²

First Presbyterian Church, Memphis, Tennessee: April 8, 2023

A man broke church windows after throwing bricks at two individuals outside of the church. One of the victims was trying to sleep outside of the church, and the man threw rocks at her and punched and stomped on her.¹⁰³

Konnarock Baptist Church, Damascus, Virginia: April 8, 2023

The day before Easter, every room in the church except the sanctuary was vandalized with shattered glass and vulgar graffiti on the walls.¹⁰⁴

Cornerstone Family Worship Center, Mount Holly, North Carolina: April 9, 2023

Shortly after midnight on Easter Sunday, cameras showed a vandal sawing through the church's 20-foot wooden cross outside the church and toppling it.¹⁰⁵

Faith Lutheran Church, Cambridge, Massachusetts: April 9, 2023

Less than a half hour after an Easter service, a massive fire was started at the church. No one was hurt, but the fire spread quickly and caused a great deal of damage, requiring the steeple to be removed. The FBI believed the fire to be an act of arson.¹⁰⁶

St. Clare of Assisi Roman Catholic Church, Johnstown, Pennsylvania: April 10, 2023

Two pentagrams and a misspelling of the word "hypocrites" were spray-painted on the doors. On the night of vandalism, two individuals were loitering near the church. When they were asked to leave by a church maintenance worker, the individuals hurled insults at the maintenance worker and the church.¹⁰⁷

United Methodist Christ Church by the Sea, Newport Beach, California: April 15, 2023

A vandal caused an estimated \$80,000-\$100,000 in damages to the church.¹⁰⁸

Edmonds United Methodist Church, Edmonds, Washington: April 16, 2023

After the Sunday service, church members found flyers with mean and threatening messages on the windshields of their cars. The church believed it was provoked by the church's pro-LGBT stance.¹⁰⁹

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Churubusco, New York: April 16, 2023

Three young men reportedly discharged fire extinguishers throughout the inside of the church, stole metal pipes, and damaged the door and a chandelier.¹¹⁰

Lifepoint Church, DeLand, Florida: April 16, 2023

The church was evacuated during Sunday service on account of a bomb threat. The sheriff's office concluded that the threat was a hoax.¹¹¹

God of No Limits Family Ministry Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: April 17, 2023

A man broke in through a glass door and set the church on fire using a lighter. The fire destroyed the entire roof and much of the building's interior.¹¹²

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Fresno, California: April 18, 2023

Many of the church's windows were destroyed by vandals. The pastor believed they were targeted because of the church's pro-LGBTQ+ stance.¹¹³

Peckville Assembly of God, Scranton, Pennsylvania: April 19, 2023

A woman sent multiple threats to the church via Instagram. Seemingly upset about finding out her boyfriend had met up with another woman, the perpetrator threatened to "shoot up" the church if the other woman was there.¹¹⁴

St. Ambrose Parish, Boston, Massachusetts: April 22, 2023

Vandals spray-painted the church's rectory and a priest's car. They also spray-painted the word "sex" onto the side of the church building.¹¹⁵

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, Kirkland, Washington: April 23, 2023

After Sunday service, church members found flyers with hateful messages on the windshields of their cars. Church officials believed the flyers were specifically directed at LGBT-identifying individuals.¹¹⁶

St. Catherine of Siena, Denver, Colorado: April 24, 2023

Vandals destroyed the church's antique Belgian statue of Mary.¹¹⁷

I AM Temple, Chicago, Illinois: April 27, 2023

A man broke windows and doors and then damaged furniture and other items once inside. He injured himself in the process, and police took him into custody and brought him to the hospital.¹¹⁸

The Church at Ponce and Highland, Atlanta, Georgia: April 28, 2023*

The church's sign was defaced with graffiti. It was vandalized three more times during the month of June.¹¹⁹

Grove Hill Church, Granville County, North Carolina: April 29, 2023

Vandals broke stained glass windows and overturned headstones in the church's cemetery.¹²⁰

Chapel of St. Ignatius, Seattle, Washington: April 30, 2023

The chapel on the Seattle University campus was vandalized. There were slash marks on benches and cushions, and names of God on the walls were scratched out. Several other items, such as books and plants, were ruined.¹²¹

First Lutheran Church, Palo Alto, California: May 2023

A vandal ripped a Pride flag and its mounting bracket off the front wall of the church and left them lying on the ground.¹²²

Waterstone Community Church, Littleton, Colorado: May 1, 2023

In a string of car thefts, cars were either broken into or stolen during the church service.¹²³

Catholic Charities of Brooklyn and Queens, New York, New York: May 2, 2023

Two men vandalized the Catholic Charities of Brooklyn and Queens's headquarters. The vandals were being sought by the NYPD Hate Crimes Task Force.¹²⁴

God's House Church, Topeka, Kansas: May 2, 2023

Two teenagers vandalized a church bus, rendering it undriveable. Hateful messages were also spray painted on the inside of a bus.¹²⁵

Unidentified church, Buffalo, New York: May 3, 2023

A man called three police department districts. In the first call, he said he planned on conducting a shooting at a “fellowship church” on May 7. He then called the other two districts, saying he would kill a family and conduct a shooting in a grocery store.¹²⁶

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, Amarillo, Texas: May 4, 2023

Vandals damaged several significant pieces within the church, including the baptismal font, altar, processional cross, and tabernacle. The baptismal font, which was comprised of marble from Italy and featured carvings of saints, was the item most damaged. The church’s junior warden said they will not fix the altar as the damage to it will symbolize the wounds of Jesus.¹²⁷

Williamsburg Baptist Church, Williamsburg, Virginia: May 4, 2023

A bomb threat was communicated via a phone call that used an electronic voice and an untraceable number. The call included anti-gay messages, which were presumably made due to the church’s pro-LGBT stance.¹²⁸

Holy Family Catholic Church, Woodbridge, Virginia: May 5, 2023

Police searched the church property in response to a bomb threat but did not find a bomb.¹²⁹

Jerusalem Baptist Church, Athens, Georgia: May 5, 2023

An individual stole the church’s mailbox, vandalized the church sign and rail with graffiti, left clothes outside of the church, and urinated on the front door.¹³⁰

Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Washington, District of Columbia: May 6-7, 2023

Several parts of the church were vandalized: the front door’s glass was shattered, items were strewn everywhere, gold spray paint was all over the icon of St. John of Shanghai and the walls, and the altar wine had been opened and drunk.¹³¹

Market Place Church, Hickory, North Carolina: May 7, 2023

Police found two bombs at the church and arrested the suspect.¹³²

Light Street Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, Maryland: May 8, 2023

Cameras caught a man climbing the church's wall and tearing down its Pride flag.¹³³

Red Rocks Church, Littleton, Colorado: May 8, 2023*

In a string of car thefts, cars were either broken into or stolen during the church service.¹³⁴

Montandon Baptist Church, Montandon, Pennsylvania: May 9-12, 2023

The church was vandalized with graffiti of a cross and what appeared to be a depiction of the devil. The damages were estimated to cost about \$300.¹³⁵

Augustana Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota: May 10, 2023

One of the church's stained glass windows was smashed, causing an estimated \$1,000 in damages.¹³⁶

Good Samaritan Hospital Chapel, Cincinnati, Ohio: May 13, 2023

A woman allegedly defecated on the altar, used a fabric runner on the altar to wipe herself, and "smeared feces on table of altar." She was arrested for desecrating a place of worship.¹³⁷

Smyrna Baptist Church, Maryville, Tennessee: May 13, 2023

The church was vandalized with damages amounting to \$200,000. Two 12-year-old boys were charged with burglary and vandalism. Two nearby houses were also affected.¹³⁸

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Goose Creek, South Carolina: May 14, 2023

Multiple statues of Mary were found severely damaged on Mother's Day.¹³⁹

Montgomery Memorial Methodist Church, Pacolet, South Carolina: May 14, 2023

The church was burglarized and set on fire, and the damages were estimated to run in the tens of thousands of dollars. A man with an extensive criminal record was arrested in connection with the event.¹⁴⁰

Highland Park Baptist Church, Williamsburg, Kentucky: May 14-17, 2023

The sidewalk and the side of a church building were vandalized with graffiti. Police reported that the images were vulgar and inappropriate.¹⁴¹

Friends Church, Friendsville, Tennessee: May 20, 2023

Four boys between the ages of 15 and 17 vandalized the church's pavilion, broke into the kitchen, deployed a fire extinguisher, and broke ceiling fans and a microwave."¹⁴²

First Ashville Baptist Church, Marshall, Virginia: May 20-21, 2023*

The church and a schoolhouse on its property were vandalized two consecutive days.¹⁴³

Bethany Christian Church, Bumpass, Virginia: May 21, 2023

Multiple rooms in the church were vandalized.¹⁴⁴

First Presbyterian Church, Douglas, Arizona: May 22, 2023

The century-old church's roof collapsed as a result of arson.¹⁴⁵

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Douglas, Arizona: May 22, 2023

The sanctuary and rectory of the century-old church were destroyed via arson.¹⁴⁶

Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Des Plaines, Illinois: May 23, 2023

A woman was arrested for allegedly setting fire to the shrine, causing more than \$78,000 in damages. The arsonist was seen on security camera video "throwing objects to feed the fire, including rosaries, crutches, a trash can and other materials."¹⁴⁷

Obion River Baptist Association Church, Mckenzie, Tennessee: May 24, 2023

Vandals poured paint and chemicals throughout the church, overturned the pulpit, damaged the sanctuary and the ceiling, and ripped out sound equipment.¹⁴⁸

United Methodist Church, Energy, Illinois: May 26, 2023

A fire completely destroyed the church. It was part of a series of local arsons.¹⁴⁹

Cedar Grove Baptist Church, Laurens, South Carolina: May 27, 2023

The church was one of four churches in the same county that were vandalized overnight. Windows were smashed, and items were stolen from all four churches.¹⁵⁰

Church school building, Rockford, Illinois: May 27, 2023

A fire minimally damaged a vacant church school building. Police believed the fire to be arson.¹⁵¹

Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Laurens, South Carolina: May 27, 2023

The church was one of four churches in the same county that were vandalized overnight. Windows were smashed, and items were stolen from all four churches. At this church, vandals also left an upside-down cross, which evokes satanic imagery.¹⁵²

New Prospect Baptist Church, Laurens, South Carolina: May 27, 2023

The church was one of four churches in the same county that were vandalized overnight. Windows were smashed, and items were stolen from all four churches.¹⁵³

Reedy Grove Pentecostal Holiness Church, Waterloo, South Carolina: May 27, 2023

The church was one of four churches in the same county that were vandalized overnight. Windows were smashed, and items were stolen from all four churches.¹⁵⁴

St. Peter's Church, Warwick, Rhode Island: May 27, 2023

A suspicious item was found near the church. When police arrived on the scene, they evacuated the area. No additional suspicious items were found.¹⁵⁵

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, Martin, South Dakota: May 28, 2023

A statue was vandalized, and a bench was thrown down a ravine.¹⁵⁶

St. Raphael Catholic Church, Bay Village, Ohio: May 28, 2023

A man “threatened to beat up, shoot, and kill” several churchgoers outside of the church after mass.¹⁵⁷

Unidentified church, Memphis, Tennessee: May 31, 2023

A man slept inside the church and then set it on fire because he reportedly did not like the way it smelled.¹⁵⁸

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Vancouver, Washington: June 2023*

The church’s pro-LGBT display was vandalized.¹⁵⁹

Mission Concepción, San Antonio, Texas: June 2023

A man entered the church during the day, broke three glass vessels used to hold holy oil, and draped himself in a white decorative cloth that hung on a large cross to symbolize the resurrection. The church’s video equipment was also stolen around this time.¹⁶⁰

Mountain City Church, Anchorage, Alaska: June 2023*

A chemical was used to burn a swastika into the church’s front lawn. This came after one of the church’s signs was vandalized with spray paint several days earlier.¹⁶¹

Chapel of Restoration, Tulsa, Oklahoma: June 1, 2023

A fire that destroyed part of the church building was investigated as an arson.¹⁶²

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Bakersfield, California: June 1, 2023

Objects were thrown at the church’s stained glass windows, causing \$5,000 in damages.¹⁶³

Faith Lutheran Church, Dickinson, Texas: June 2, 2023

A man set the church on fire, destroying several offices and classrooms. Police said the perpetrator seemed to be trying to cover up other financial crimes he had committed against the church. He was charged with forgery and arson of a place of worship.¹⁶⁴

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Cincinnati, Ohio: June 2, 2023

The church's Sacred Heart of Jesus statue was vandalized.¹⁶⁵

Mount Zion Baptist Church, Pleasantville, New Jersey: June 2 and 19, 2023*

The church was vandalized twice in one month, the perpetrator(s) throwing rocks at glass windows and doors.¹⁶⁶

Coon Prairie Church, Westby, Wisconsin: June 3, 2023

Rocks were thrown at the church's windows overnight.¹⁶⁷

St. John's United Methodist Church, Los Angeles, California: June 3, 2023

The 100-year-old church was undergoing renovations from a February 2022 fire when it caught fire again. The second fire was investigated as an arson.¹⁶⁸

Church of St. Margaret Mary, Golden Valley, Minnesota: June 4, 2023

The church's air conditioning unit was stolen. This was part of a series of recent incidents, including a stolen security camera and trespassing.¹⁶⁹

Columbus Church of Christ, Columbus, Mississippi: June 5, 2023

Security camera footage showed a man breaking the church's glass doors with a stick. The man also drank a beverage used for communion, threw communion trays in the trash and around the sanctuary, and knocked over chairs.¹⁷⁰

St. Joseph Church, New York, New York: June 5, 2023*

A man possibly suffering from mental illness broke open the church's tabernacle and tossed the Eucharist that was inside. He also broke photos of Pope Francis and Bishop Robert Brennan and attempted to spread paint thinner on the basement floor. He was found hitting himself in the head with a monstrance.¹⁷¹

Hollywood United Methodist Church, Los Angeles, California: June 7, 2023

A Pride banner hanging outside the church was slashed.¹⁷²

First Baptist Church, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts: June 8, 2023

The church's exterior was spray-painted with messages the church's pastoral team described as "hateful" and hostile to gay-identified individuals.¹⁷³

Fowler United Methodist Church, Annapolis, Maryland: June 8, 2023

The historically Black church was vandalized, causing \$100,000 in damages. Pages were torn out of Bibles and hymnals, a large wooden cross was torn down, pew upholstery was ripped, televisions were damaged, microphone cords were cut, the pastor's academic degrees were broken out of their frames, a Christian flag was removed from its stand and laid on the floor, and the letters of the church's outdoor sign were removed and left scattered on the ground.¹⁷⁴

Concord Trinity United Methodist Church, St. Louis, Missouri: June 9, 2023

An outdoor display of colorful doors that read "God's doors are open to all," meant to coincide with Pride month, was vandalized. All but one of the doors were knocked down.¹⁷⁵

Southside Baptist Church, Mountain Grove, Missouri: June 10, 2023

A man ransacked an office and set the building on fire, causing severe damage.¹⁷⁶

St. Timothy Catholic Church, Miami, Florida: June 10, 2023

Several individuals spray painted words like "perverts" and "pigs" on the church's interior walls, trash bins were overturned, and part of an altar was broken. A female suspect was charged with one count of criminal mischief against a church or place of worship.¹⁷⁷

Zion Episcopal Church, New York, New York: June 10, 2023

A Pride flag outside the church was torn down.¹⁷⁸

St. Phillips Episcopal Church, Annapolis, Maryland: June 10 and 13, 2023*

A man was arrested for damaging the church's sign and multiple statues.¹⁷⁹

Assembly of God Church, Sandpoint, Idaho: June 11, 2023

A man was arrested and charged with first-degree arson for setting the church on fire.¹⁸⁰

Colorado District United Pentecostal Church, Castle Rock, Colorado: June 11, 2023

Police arrested a man who had sent an email threatening to leave a bomb at a large church event held at the Douglas County Fairgrounds.¹⁸¹

Dutch Valley Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tennessee: June 11, 2023

A man broke one of the church's stained glass windows and battered railings and columns, causing \$3,900 in damages. He reportedly also attempted to pry open the church's front doors.¹⁸²

First Church Somerville, Somerville, Massachusetts: June 11, 2023

The church's sanctuary was set on fire. At the time, members of the congregation were meeting about a service project downstairs. A member of the congregation quickly put out the fire, and there was minimal damage.¹⁸³

Our Lady of Fatima Roman Catholic Church, Port Washington, New York: June 11, 2023

A man threw a brick through the glass door of the church.¹⁸⁴

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Somers Point, New Jersey: June 11, 2023

The church was the recipient of a threat. After police officers and bomb detection dogs conducted a search, the threat was determined not to be credible. The church canceled services that weekend as a precaution.¹⁸⁵

Abundant Life Church, Warrenton, Missouri: June 12, 2023

A fire with an unknown cause broke out in the church. At the time, investigators had not ruled out arson.¹⁸⁶

Maxville Missionary Baptist Church, Cave City, Arkansas: June 12, 2023

Someone spray-painted satanic symbols on the church building and a van, including an upside-down cross and “666.”¹⁸⁷

Agape Community Temple of Servants, Conway, Arkansas: June 13, 2023

A rock was thrown at the church’s doors, breaking a side door and leaving scuff marks on the front door. It was one of three predominantly Black churches in Conway vandalized on the same day.¹⁸⁸

Ark and Dove Presbyterian Church, Odenton, Maryland: June 13, 2023

Someone defaced the church’s Black Lives Matter and Pride signs.¹⁸⁹

Light House Christian Church, Conway, Arkansas: June 13, 2023

A brick was thrown at the building, breaking two windows. It was one of three predominantly Black churches in Conway vandalized on the same day.¹⁹⁰

Zion Temple Church of God, Conway, Arkansas: June 13, 2023

A rock was used to break the church’s glass front door. It was one of three predominantly Black churches in Conway vandalized on the same day.¹⁹¹

Good Shepherd Missionary Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, Louisiana: June 14, 2023*

The church caught fire, causing moderate smoke damage. The incident was ruled to be arson.¹⁹²

Little Salem Old Regular Baptist Church, Dana, Kentucky: June 14, 2023

The kitchen was vandalized. Items intended for a fundraiser were defecated on and soaked in urine, the oven doors were busted open, food was stolen from the refrigerator, and broken glass and white powder covered the tables and floor.¹⁹³

Mount Joy United Methodist Church, Wilmington, Delaware: June 14, 2023

A group of teenagers vandalized a bus used by a local non-profit that was parked in the church parking lot, totaling it.¹⁹⁴

The Church at Ponce and Highland, Atlanta, Georgia: June 15, 24, and 26, 2023*

The church's sign was repeatedly defaced with graffiti, including the word "demon" and a slur directed at gay-identified individuals. The sign had been previously vandalized in April.¹⁹⁵

Annunciation Catholic School, Denver, Colorado: June 16, 2023

Two people spray-painted several satanic phrases and images on the walls, such as an upside-down cross and "666."¹⁹⁶

Grace Community Church, Marblehead, Massachusetts: June 16, 2023

A rainbow and the words "Stay gay, stay hard, Love is 4 everyone" were spray-painted on the church's exterior.¹⁹⁷

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Wickliffe, Ohio: June 18, 2023

A man was arrested for damaging the church's stations of the cross display, surrounding benches, and a statue of Mary.¹⁹⁸

Ray Avenue Baptist Church, Salina, Kansas: June 18, 2023

A group of teenagers damaged three buses owned by the church, totaling them. The buses were to be used to transport 50 kids to church camp the week after the incident.¹⁹⁹

Brinkley Heights Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee: June 19, 2023

Individuals broke into a total of nine cars parked outside the church. They managed to steal one and drove through a chain link fence.²⁰⁰

Perfecting Holiness Temple, Des Moines, Iowa: June 19, 2023

The church was set on fire, causing extensive damage. A man was arrested and charged with first-degree arson.²⁰¹

Unidentified church, Kalispell, Montana: June 20, 2023

A man set the church on fire, causing over \$1,500 in damages. He left writing on the church's western wall with his initials and a message that read, "The reason I am burning...this church is because your pastor called and talked about what I talked to him about as soon as he thought I was gone." The church's pastor said that he had met with the man earlier in the day and contacted law enforcement after the man indicated that he was about to do something to get himself killed. The man was charged with one count of arson.²⁰²

Fox Island United Church of Christ, Fox Island, Washington: June 21, 2023

The church's sign was vandalized.²⁰³

St. Monica's Catholic Church, Coos Bay, Oregon: June 21, 2023

A statue of Mary was vandalized.²⁰⁴

Sunnyside Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia: June 23, 2023

A shooting in the church parking lot killed an 18-year-old man.²⁰⁵

Incarnation Catholic Church, Orlando, Florida: June 24, 2023

A fire caused severe damage to the church's interior. The incident occurred on the first anniversary of the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, but it was unknown if the fire was the handiwork of a pro-abortion arsonist.²⁰⁶

St. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, Annapolis, Maryland: June 24, 2023

The church's signs were vandalized, and flower beds were destroyed.²⁰⁷

Veradale United Church of Christ, Spokane Valley, Washington: June 25, 2023

"[O]ver two-dozen small Pride flags and three large flags—including a Pride flag, a Black Lives Matter flag, and a flag with multiple human rights-oriented messages" were stolen from the church's exterior. Diesel fuel was poured on the lawn so that the resulting brown, dead grass spelled the phrase "LEV 2013," a reference to Leviticus 20:13.²⁰⁸

Ascension of the Lord Romanian Orthodox Church, Hayward, California: June 26, 2023

Several religious artifacts were set on fire, including a Bible and a crucifix. The charred items and ashes were left around an altar. The perpetrators also damaged a door handle, tables, and chairs and stole a cash box from a daycare housed inside the church.²⁰⁹

Wesleyan Church of Winder, Winder, Georgia: June 26, 2023

The church was vandalized with orange spray paint.²¹⁰

Central Church of Christ, Amarillo, Texas: June 27, 2023

Vandals broke a window in one of the doors to gain entrance and carved satanic symbols into the walls, doors, and chairs. They also broke electronic devices and lighting fixtures and tore down security cameras. This incident was the third church break-in in the area in two months.²¹¹

Church at Mission San José, San Antonio, Texas: June 28, 2023

An attempted break-in at the historic church damaged the building, including its Rose Window that was made in 1775.²¹²

St. Clement Roman Catholic Church, Johnstown, Pennsylvania: June 28, 2023

The church's pavilion was vandalized, with significant damage to two bathrooms.²¹³

St. Rose of Lima Church, Buffalo, New York: June 28, 2023

A man toppled a statute of Mary outside the church.²¹⁴

First Pentecostal Church, North Little Rock, Arkansas: June 29, 2023

A homeless man was arrested after disrupting a church service by pacing up and down the aisles and making threatening statements, such as saying that the churchgoers should be afraid of him because he carries a gun and "will blow their brains out one by one."²¹⁵

Santiago Retreat Center, Silverado, California: June 30, 2023

A 14-foot outdoor wooden cross was sawed in half.²¹⁶

Trinity Baptist Church, Asheville, North Carolina: June 30, 2023

A man tried to break into the church. He also threatened a woman who was walking her dog with knives in his hands.²¹⁷

Friendship Baptist Church, Dunkirk, Maryland: July 2023

The church's community garden was vandalized several times in two months, with plants being uprooted. The church has experienced vandalism before: their van and shed were broken into and their lawnmower was stolen.²¹⁸

Lions of Judah 7 Ministries, Atco, New Jersey: July 2023*

The church was vandalized twice. The second time, a brick was thrown through a door, breaking glass while children were inside attending a vacation Bible school. In the earlier incident, rocks were thrown at the front door, which damaged the wood, and flowerpots were knocked over.²¹⁹

Denton Bible Church, Denton, Texas: July 3, 2023

Police arrested a man after he used a knife to threaten a security guard outside of the church.²²⁰

Glenview United Methodist Church, Glenview, Illinois: July 4, 2023

The church's Pride Month banner saying "All Are Welcome" was torn down and ripped.²²¹

Isom Memorial Church, Ocala, Florida: July 5, 2023

A man was arrested after reportedly setting the church's front door on fire, as well as a nearby private residence.²²²

Sylmar Christian Fellowship Church, Los Angeles, California: July 6, 2023

Three wooden crosses in the garden outside of the church were set on fire. The arson was investigated as a hate crime due to its resemblance to methods once used by the Ku Klux Klan to intimidate Black people.²²³

Belmont United Methodist Church, Nashville, Tennessee: July 7, 2023

A man jumped the fence around the church's property while its daycare was in session and made threats about blowing up the building. He was arrested, and no bombs or weapons were found.²²⁴

Hinthorn Chapel, Towanda, Illinois: July 7, 2023

Two young men were arrested after breaking into the historic church, spray painting it, and setting it on fire.²²⁵

Glendale United Methodist Church, Nashville, Tennessee: July 8, 2023

A cinder block was thrown at one of the church's windows, breaking the glass.²²⁶

Resurrection Roman Catholic Church, New York, New York: July 8, 2023*

A man spray painted the church's new statue of Mary with black paint and the word "fake."²²⁷

St. Joseph Church, New York, New York: July 8, 2023*

A man came into the church and began "acting erratically," which alarmed the youth choir during their practice. The man was suspected of being the same individual who vandalized the parish on June 5 and was arrested.²²⁸

Bethel Chapel AME Church, Columbia, Tennessee: July 9, 2023

As churchgoers left the service, they found Ku Klux Klan flyers outside of the church with a veiled threat of "be warned." It was one of three churches in the area that experienced this.²²⁹

Faith United Missionary Baptist Church, Columbia, Tennessee: July 9, 2023

As churchgoers left the service, they found Ku Klux Klan flyers outside of the church with a veiled threat of "be warned." It was one of three churches in the area that experienced this.²³⁰

Greater Life Tabernacle Pentecostal Church, Edinburg, Texas: July 9, 2023

Church members were disturbed when a man outside of the church began yelling about “killing Christians” and cited the Bible in his declarations. Although he denied having said anything threatening, he was arrested.²³¹

Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, Columbia, Tennessee: July 9, 2023

As churchgoers left the service, they found Ku Klux Klan flyers outside of the church with a veiled threat of “be warned.” It was one of three churches in the area that experienced this.²³²

Holy Trinity Church, Westfield, Massachusetts: July 11, 2023

The church’s shrine was vandalized when two marble statues were knocked over. The statues did not suffer any permanent damage.²³³

Mount Christian Worship Center, Kansas City, Missouri: July 12, 2023

The church suffered a massive fire, the origin of which firefighters said was suspicious. The building’s alarms were also triggered before the fire, indicating that someone had tried to break in. The over 100-year-old church building was thought to be a total loss.²³⁴

First Pilgrim Valley Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas: July 13, 2023

A man reportedly threatened to shoot up the church. He was tracked down and arrested before he could follow through on his threat.²³⁵

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Melville, Louisiana: July 13, 2023

A priest was hospitalized after a man approached him asking for food and then stabbed him with a machete. Fortunately, a neighbor of the church saw the incident and called the police, who arrested the assailant. The attacker had reportedly stated that he “wanted to kill a Black man today.”²³⁶

Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church, New York, New York: July 15, 2023

A man wearing priest's vestments without pants broke into the church's shrine to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and vandalized it. He tore down a large crucifix, then chased off a witness before police found him pacing with a bottle of wine.²³⁷

Abiding Hope Church, Littleton, Colorado: July 16, 2023*

In a string of car thefts, cars were either broken into or stolen during area church services. At this church, there were two cars affected.²³⁸

Light of the World Church, Littleton, Colorado: July 16, 2023

In a string of car thefts, cars were either broken into or stolen during area church services.²³⁹

Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church, El Paso, Texas: July 16, 2023

Vandals turned crosses upside down, dumped holy oil, and wrote "666" on several items.²⁴⁰

Red Rocks Church, Littleton, Colorado: July 16, 2023*

In a string of car thefts, cars were either broken into or stolen during area church services.²⁴¹

St. Philip Lutheran Church, Littleton, Colorado: July 16, 2023

In a string of car thefts, cars were either broken into or stolen during area church services.²⁴²

Tabernacle Church of God, Ansonville, North Carolina: July 16, 2023

Cameras caught three people leaving the church after they had broken in and caused "a significant amount of vandalism." The individuals also wrote a racial slur inside the building.²⁴³

West Bowles Community Church, Littleton, Colorado: July 16, 2023

In a string of car thefts, cars were either broken into or stolen during area church services.²⁴⁴

Brew City Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin: July 16-17, 2023*

A man vandalized the church's sign with vulgarity and nonsensical phrases after disrupting the service and being escorted out the day before. The pastor stated that the church had tried to help the man in the past. Repairs cost the church \$1,500.²⁴⁵

First Congregational Church, Charlotte, Michigan: July 17, 2023

The church's Pride flag was torn down and shredded. Signs outside the church have been repeatedly vandalized.²⁴⁶

Living Stones Church, Reno, Nevada: July 17, 2023

A man was arrested after throwing several Molotov cocktails through the church's windows, causing a fire. The fire was limited to just the interior wall and floor.²⁴⁷

Congregational Church of Belmont, Belmont, California: July 18, 2023

The church's Pride banner was slashed in two.²⁴⁸

Corsicana Cowboy Church, Corsicana, Texas: July 18, 2023

An individual attempted to break into the church. They hit the door with an object, then threw a fluid at the door, leaving the door broken and on fire until the fire was put out.²⁴⁹

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, La Grange, Texas: July 18, 2023

Three teenagers were charged with vandalizing the church after they turned themselves in to the police.²⁵⁰

St. Edwards Catholic Church, Elmdale, Minnesota: July 18, 2023

The church's interior was damaged by a fire. Police suspected a 12-year-old was connected to the incident.²⁵¹

Abiding Hope Church, Littleton, Colorado: July 20, 2023*

In a string of car thefts, cars were either broken into or stolen during area church services.²⁵²

Red Rocks Baptist Church, Morrison, Colorado: July 20, 2023

In a string of car thefts, cars were either broken into or stolen during area church services.²⁵³

Community Unitarian Universalist Church, Plano, Texas: July 23, 2023

A fire set with a “chemical accelerant” damaged the church’s front door and entrance. The church suspects it was targeted due to its pro-LGBT stance.²⁵⁴

Crow Community Baptist Church, Billings, Montana: July 23, 2023

The 130-year-old church was vandalized, with several windows smashed. A church member remarked how the church has “always been a part of this community” and the vandalism was “disrespecting [their] ancestors.”²⁵⁵

St. Mary Star of the Sea, Duluth, Minnesota: July 25, 2023

The church was broken into and vandalized, with the statue of Mary completely ruined.²⁵⁶

St. Mary’s Church, Farmington, Connecticut: July 25, 2023

A man was arrested after making online threats against two churches. He appeared to exhibit anti-Catholic sentiment.²⁵⁷

St. Patrick’s Church, Farmington, Connecticut: July 25, 2023

A man was arrested after making online threats against two churches. He appeared to exhibit anti-Catholic sentiment.²⁵⁸

Miracle Temple AOH Church of God, Biloxi, Mississippi: July 25 and 27, 2023*

The church was targeted twice in one week. In the first incident, the building was broken into, trash was thrown around the interior, instruments were ruined, a fire was attempted inside a bathroom, and “13” was carved on the outside of the building. In the second incident, 10 bullet holes were found shot through the glass windows.²⁵⁹

Apostolic Lutheran Church of Tri-Cities, Pasco, Washington: July 27, 2023

Witnesses saw a man breaking out of one of the church's windows and running away as the church caught fire. The man was found and arrested.²⁶⁰

St. Pius X Catholic Church, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho: July 27, 2023

Four teenagers vandalized the church by breaking two windows.²⁶¹

Wicker Park Lutheran Church, Chicago, Illinois: July 27, 2023

Vandals tore down and stole the church's Pride flags five times in three months.²⁶²

Notre Dame Catholic Church, Ogdensburg, New York: July 29, 2023

Two of the church's famous Horwood stained glass windows were broken by rocks and a baseball. Repairs were estimated to cost between \$32,000 and \$35,000, and the specific type of window is irreplaceable.²⁶³

United Christian Church, Miles City, Montana: July 30, 2023

The church's rainbow flag was ripped down and replaced with an American flag, and a homemade sign quoting Leviticus 20:13 and featuring the text "#BEGONE" was draped over the church's sign.²⁶⁴

Church of God by Faith, Ozark, Alabama: August 2023*

The church was vandalized twice in one week. Someone entered the church, which was undergoing a renovation, and threw church programs and chairs around, broke glass, and overturned flowerpots.²⁶⁵

Good Shepherd Missionary Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, Louisiana: August 2023*

After experiencing a fire in January 2022, another fire was deliberately set that caused over \$500,000 in damages. Then, while the congregation was meeting in a different building after the fire, the empty church building was burglarized.²⁶⁶

Melrose Abbey, Kansas City, Missouri: August 2023

A real estate developer restoring a 101-year-old church has been hit with constant vandalism amounting to about \$60,000. Initially, homeless people were using the port-a-potty, but then the building became a hotspot for drug activity. The property has been littered with needles, a fire was started underneath a window that broke the glass, and heavy equipment was stolen from the work site.²⁶⁷

First Baptist Jackson, Jackson, Mississippi: August 1, 2023

A man threatened to shoot people at a basketball game being held at the church. After making threats, he grabbed a backpack from his car and tried to go back inside the church before a security guard stopped him. Police found a 9mm handgun in his car.²⁶⁸

Pilgrim Congregational Church, Pomona, California: August 3, 2023

A woman repeatedly vandalized the church over several months, damaging windows and doors with rocks. The vandalism has cost the church approximately \$20,000 over the past few years. Homeless people reportedly congregate around the church as well, leaving trash, doing drugs, and “using the front of the church as a bathroom.”²⁶⁹

Emerald Beach Church of God, Panama City, Florida: August 4, 2023

A man smashed a window to break into the church, vandalized the inside of the church, and then stole a television, computer, and money. When the man was arrested, he was found to be under the influence of drugs, claiming he had “baptized” himself while inside the church.²⁷⁰

Joppa Church, Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky: August 4, 2023*

The church was vandalized several times in a month. A group of juveniles was suspected of breaking windows, kicking in doors, and spray-painting graffiti on the building. The church lies within Mammoth Cave National Park and is not in use, but its origin dates back to 1862 and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.²⁷¹

East Harpswell Baptist Church, Harpswell, Maine: August 5, 2023

The 176-year-old church, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was severely damaged. A vandal broke the padlock to break in, took a wooden column out of the floor, deployed fire extinguishers, smashed glass on a pew, and threw an old Bible on the floor.²⁷²

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Emlenton, Pennsylvania: August 6, 2023

The church was vandalized and burglarized, costing the church approximately \$6,000.²⁷³

Trinity AME Church, Salt Lake City, Utah: August 6, 2023

The church was vandalized and threatened. A sign showing future renovation plans was torn down, and a message was written on the sidewalk in front of the church with an order to “Stay off my block, you are not welcome, no cheats and liars here, f*** you.”²⁷⁴

Slavic Baptist Church of Harrisburg, Goldsboro, Pennsylvania: August 7, 2023

A man had been repeatedly harassing the church for several years, including leaving a threatening Google review, calling the police with noise complaints, threatening congregants with a flare gun, trespassing, loitering, prowling, attempting arson, destroying the church's property, assaulting members, and repeatedly saying members should join the war in Ukraine. The day before police responded to the church's complaint, the man had stood outside of the church pretending to shoot children with finger guns.²⁷⁵

St. Francis de Sales Parish, Parma, Ohio: August 7, 2023

Vandals tore down an American flag, ripped posters, inverted a crucifix, knocked pictures of the pope and bishop to the ground, and wrote several anti-church messages, including ones referencing abortion and gender ideology. The incident may have been motivated in part by the vote on Ohio Issue 1, a ballot measure in support of amending the state constitution to protect abortion.²⁷⁶

Cove Baptist Fellowship Church, Dalton, Georgia: August 9, 2023

The church was set on fire with what appeared to be a Molotov cocktail.²⁷⁷

Park Place Christian Church, Wichita Falls, Texas: August 10, 2023

A man stole many items from the church, including a trailer.²⁷⁸

Good Hope Church, Cloquet, Minnesota: August 12, 2023

A man broke into the building by smashing the glass door. He then plugged drains and turned on the faucets, brought a garden hose in and turned it on, broke into the shed and church van, and threw items around. The hose ran for 10 hours, causing extensive damage, including electrical damage. The man had also disconnected the internet, so the fire alarm, which the intruder pulled, did not reach the fire station.²⁷⁹

Grace Lutheran Church, San Antonio, Texas: August 12, 2023

The church suffered a fire in a warehouse that contains resources for the homeless. There were reports that someone had thrown a bottle that was on fire at the building.²⁸⁰

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Willoughby, Ohio: August 12, 2023

A man broke into the church and vandalized several items, including the altar, candle stands, and a statue of Mary. He also tried to set the carpet on fire.²⁸¹

Belmont Community Church, Shelby, Ohio: August 13, 2023

Vandals destroyed the church's soundboard, computers, tablets controlling the lights, and televisions in the daycare rooms. The cost of the damage was between \$12,000 and \$16,000.²⁸²

Little River United Church of Christ, Annandale, Virginia: August 13, 2023

Someone tore down a Black Lives Matter and a rainbow banner on the church property.²⁸³

Trinity Episcopal Church, Newtown, Connecticut: August 13, 2023

Someone tore down two Pride flag displays that were fastened to the church's welcome signs.²⁸⁴

Grace United Church of Christ, St. Louis, Missouri: August 14, 2023

A vandal spray-painted "White Lives Matter" on the side of the church.²⁸⁵

Power Outreach Ministries, Oakland Park, Florida: August 14, 2023

Cameras caught an individual pouring gas onto the church's doors and setting them on fire. The church suffered \$1,000 in damages.²⁸⁶

Heritage United Methodist Church, Littleton, Colorado: August 20, 2023

In a string of car thefts, cars were either broken into or stolen during area church services.²⁸⁷

Living Savior Lutheran Church, Littleton, Colorado: August 20, 2023

In a string of car thefts, cars were either broken into or stolen during area church services. At this church, one car was broken into, and one was stolen.²⁸⁸

Portage Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, Portage, Michigan: August 20, 2023

The church's LED sign displaying a rainbow flag was shot with a hunting arrow.²⁸⁹

St. John the Baptist Church, Churchtown, Ohio: August 21, 2023

A vandal knocked over a lectern, tore pages from the missal, and ruined the Paschal candle.²⁹⁰

Page Pond Assembly of God, Altha, Florida: August 22, 2023

The church's youth building was destroyed by a fire. The pastor saw a person running from the building and went to investigate. The fire department was able to save the parsonage, which was connected to the youth building.²⁹¹

Unidentified church, Croydon, Pennsylvania: August 22, 2023

Someone caused \$500 in damages to a church's chain link fence.²⁹²

All Peoples Church, Fort Worth, Texas: August 23, 2023

A man who had been attending the church for a few months shot his dog on church grounds, left it there, and then called the church with threats before he entered the church with a shotgun, a handgun, a knife, and several loaded magazines. Police found the man before he could do any damage. Church

leaders stated that the man's actions were not hate crimes but that he was a "lone disturbed individual."²⁹³

Holy Family Catholic Church, Grand Blanc, Michigan: August 23, 2023

Cameras caught vandals breaking into the church, where they broke a crucifix and destroyed sacred and non-sacred items.²⁹⁴

Parkview Baptist Church, Lake City, Florida: August 23, 2023

A church fire was deemed suspicious. Although it did not damage the church building, the carport and several vehicles were damaged. The fire was centered around where the church assists the homeless.²⁹⁵

Unidentified church, Gordon County, Georgia: August 23, 2023

A man threw a Molotov cocktail at the church, but minimal damage was caused.²⁹⁶

Old Gunn Church, Plantersville, South Carolina: August 24, 2023

Cameras caught four juveniles vandalizing several headstones at the historic church's cemetery after they had cut three gate locks.²⁹⁷

First Baptist Church of Hudson, Hudson, New Hampshire: August 26, 2023

A man started a fire in the church, crashed his car into the side of the building, and then flagged down police to tell them about the fire. The fire caused extensive damage to the building.²⁹⁸

Govans Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, Maryland: August 27, 2023

Someone vandalized the church's "Black Lives Matter" sign by bending the metal poles that held the sign.²⁹⁹

Greater Dominion Church, Ambridge, Pennsylvania: August 27, 2023

A man in a camouflage vest with a long gun threatened two women outside the church. The man tried to get into the church, but police arrived and stopped him after he also pointed his weapon at them.³⁰⁰

Quinn Chapel AME Church, Forest Park, Ohio: August 27, 2023

A man called the suicide hotline, saying he had put two backpacks with pipe bombs inside the church. He said the bombs would detonate in 45 minutes and that he would be watching and waiting for the police to shoot him. No bombs were found inside the church, but the caller was not found.³⁰¹

Redeemed Christian Church of God, Plainfield, Illinois: August 27, 2023

A woman threatened to “take lives” after “aggressively” entering the office of the church, saying she was “ready to go to jail.”³⁰²

St. Paul AME Church, Apopka, Florida: August 27, 2023

Police interrupted a service to tell the pastor that someone had called the suicide hotline, saying he had placed a bomb on the roof of the church and was inside the church’s restrooms.³⁰³

St. Boniface Church, Manitowoc, Wisconsin: August 28, 2023

A man broke into the church, damaging several doors in the process.³⁰⁴

Christ Citadel International Church, Pomona, California: August 30, 2023

Police evacuated the church after receiving a bomb threat.³⁰⁵

Iglesia Jesucristo Es Mi Fortaleza, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: August 30, 2023

A vandal took an excavator that belonged to a construction company that was working on the church and left it running in the middle of the road. The church building was also vandalized and a cross outside the church was torn down.³⁰⁶

New Victory Ministries Church, Rome, Georgia: August 30, 2023

A man damaged the church’s cross and pulled it out of the ground.³⁰⁷

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Salem, Oregon: August 31, 2023

The church’s four-alarm fire was determined to be arson. Originally reported as a dumpster fire, the fire caused the roof to be destroyed, as well as some of the interior.³⁰⁸

First Mexican Baptist Church, Bryan, Texas: September 2023

The church was vandalized repeatedly for weeks, having their windows broken multiple times.³⁰⁹

Our Lady Help of Christians, Cheektowaga, New York: September 2, 2023

A man broke into the church, stole items, and spilled liquids and incense on the altar.³¹⁰

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, Verona, New Jersey: September 2, 2023*

A man smashed a religious statue on the church grounds with a hammer. He immediately turned himself in to the police.³¹¹

St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Nashville, Tennessee: September 3, 2023

Someone crashed through the church's cremation garden with a car. It was not immediately known whether the incident was intentional or not.³¹²

St. Archangel Michael Serbian Orthodox Church, Saratoga, California: September 3, 2023

Multiple criminal threats were made against the church.³¹³

St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church, El Campo, Texas: September 3, 2023

A man was caught on camera stealing the church's tabernacle.³¹⁴

Grace Lutheran Church, Fargo, North Dakota: September 4, 2023

Vandals broke into the church. In the sanctuary, they splattered oil all over the sanctuary and sprayed a fire extinguisher on the windows and organ. In the kitchen, they broke the oven's door and left shards of glass and butter on the floor. On a whiteboard, the vandals wrote: "So so sorry."³¹⁵

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Santa Clarita, California: September 4, 2023

The church school was vandalized. There was also fire damage reported.³¹⁶

White Rock Presbyterian Church, White Rock, New Mexico: September 5, 2023

Someone stole a Pride flag from the church grounds.³¹⁷

First United Methodist Church, Hickory, North Carolina: September 8, 2023

A tractor used to plow the church's garden, which grows food for the local soup kitchen, was stolen. Additional equipment was also stolen from the church.³¹⁸

Second Baptist Church, Palermo, Maine: September 9, 2023*

Someone splattered red paint on a pro-life sign and elsewhere on the church's exterior. They also painted two messages: "Abortion is our human right" and "Queer love 4 eva."³¹⁹

Biltmore Church, Arden, North Carolina: September 10, 2023

Sunday services were canceled after a suspicious briefcase was found on the property. After examination by police and a bomb squad, the individual involved in the incident was identified, and police said there was no longer any threat to the safety of the congregants.³²⁰

Salvation Army Church, Altoona, Pennsylvania: September 10, 2023

A man was caught on security camera attaching razor blades to a hand railing outside the church. The police were able to identify him by his swastika tattoo.³²¹

St. Mary's Cathedral, Fargo, North Dakota: September 10, 2023*

Someone stole a statue of Mary valued at \$900. The church has been the target of vandalism before.³²²

Holy Family Church, Lewiston, Maine: September 10 and 16, 2023*

A vandal broke two of five small statues that face a statue of Mary in the church's garden. On another occasion, someone stole the remaining statues, but they were recovered. It was one of three Catholic churches in the area targeted in the span of three weeks.³²³

Calvary Chapel Mid Valley, Van Nuys, California: September 11, 2023

Multiple rooms of the church's meeting space were broken into and ransacked.³²⁴

Tabernacle Congregational Church, Salem, Massachusetts: September 11, 2023

The church's rainbow-colored doors were vandalized with the message "Cancel LGBTQ 2024."³²⁵

Holy Savior Catholic School, Lockport, Louisiana: September 12, 2023

A statue of Jesus outside the school was beheaded.³²⁶

Presque Isle Congregational Church, Presque Isle, Maine: September 12, 2023

Someone defaced the church's Pride flag.³²⁷

St. Mary of the Annunciation Cathedral, Cape Girardeau, Missouri: September 15, 2023

A woman showed up at the church office asking for assistance. When school officials were unable to help the woman, she threatened to bring a gun to the church. The woman was taken into police custody.³²⁸

First Christian Church, Laurel, Maryland: September 16, 2023

Someone defaced the church building with permanent marker, writing "God is good" and other illegible markings.³²⁹

Four unidentified churches, Morgan County, Tennessee: September 16, 2023

A man vandalized four churches on the same highway in one night..³³⁰

Freedom Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Texas: September 16 and 19, 2023*

Police arrested a man in connection to a fire that destroyed the church. Police thought the same man was also responsible for a burglary and attempted arson at the church a few days prior.³³¹

Decorah Lutheran Church, Decorah, Iowa: September 17, 2023

The church was one of multiple buildings in the area that was vandalized overnight with spray paint.³³²

Mountain Rise United Church of Christ, Perinton, New York: September 17, 2023

The church was evacuated in the middle of a service due to a bomb threat. After searching the building with canine units, police determined no bomb was in the area. The church also hosts Jewish services on Saturdays. Notably, a nearby Jewish temple received a separate bomb threat on the same day.³³³

Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, Lewiston, Maine: September 18, 2023

Surveillance cameras caught a woman throwing a rock at a window that did not break because it was plastic and at another window that broke. It was one of three Catholic churches in the area targeted in the span of three weeks.³³⁴

El Rey Jesús, Miami, Florida: September 18, 2023

A man was planning to conduct a mass shooting at his old high school and attack a few other places around the state, including a “stabbing spree” at the church. In response to authorities’ question about why he was targeting the church, the man said, “I guess I just don’t like religion.”³³⁵

Our Lady of the Rosary, Sabattus, Maine: September 18, 2023

The church was one of three Catholic churches in the area vandalized in the span of three weeks.³³⁶

Eram Baptist Church, Boynton, Oklahoma: September 21, 2023

The church was broken into and ransacked. Various items were damaged and strewn across the sanctuary and the church office. Charges were filed against two juveniles.³³⁷

Martinsburg Church of Christ, Martinsburg, Ohio: September 23, 2023

Someone entered the church and destroyed church property.³³⁸

Park Valley Church, Haymarket, Virginia: September 24, 2023

After police were made aware of social media posts containing “vague threats of violence” against the church, police found the man responsible for the posts at the church’s Sunday morning service in possession of a loaded handgun with an additional magazine and two knives. He was charged with making threats of bodily harm and carrying a dangerous weapon to a place of religious worship.³³⁹

St. Rita Indian Mission, Yokuts Valley, California: September 24, 2023

Someone stole the church’s tabernacle and sacred elements used for the Eucharist.³⁴⁰

St. Stephen's Armenian Apostolic Church, Watertown, Massachusetts: September 24, 2023

A hateful message that read “Artsakh is Dead, Karabakh is Azerbaijan” was taped to the Armenian church's outdoor bulletin board.³⁴¹

Sunshine Cathedral, Fort Lauderdale, Florida: September 24, 2023

During a Sunday morning service, a man stood outside the church and burned a piece of cardboard. Later the same day, he came back and threw eggs at the church. The pastor thought the perpetrator might have targeted the church due to its LGBT-affirming stance.³⁴²

Metropolitan AME Church, Washington, District of Columbia: September 27, 2023

Someone vandalized a Black Lives Matter sign outside the church by spray-painting swastikas on it.³⁴³

Sweetwater Branch Baptist Church, Conway, South Carolina: September 28-30, 2023

Someone desecrated 32 headstones and several statues at the church's cemetery. Headstones were toppled and statues broken in half.³⁴⁴

Mount Lebanon CME Church, Pittsburg, Texas: September 29, 2023

The inside of the church was considered a total loss after a teenager approached the church and dropped a lit candle inside, starting a fire. The perpetrator was charged with arson.³⁴⁵

Jesus Worship Center, Jennings, Louisiana: September 29 and October 2, 2023*

The church's north and south campuses were vandalized with spray paint just days apart, with messages like “Devil Has Risen” and symbols like a pentagram.³⁴⁶

Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains, Cincinnati, Ohio: October 2023

The church's signs opposing Ohio Issue 1, a ballot measure in support of amending the state constitution to protect abortion, were stolen or vandalized.³⁴⁷

Mt. Zion Baptist Church, New Home, Texas: October 2023

The church was vandalized with many windows broken and damage to various items.³⁴⁸

Pitts Baptist Church, Pitts, Georgia: October 2023

Police reports show that two churches were vandalized on Cleveland Avenue in Pitts, Georgia.

Although the police report did not disclose the church's name, Pitts Baptist is the only other church beside Pitts Methodist that fits the information given in the report.³⁴⁹

Pitts Methodist Church, Pitts, Georgia: October 2023

The church was broken into and vandalized.³⁵⁰

St. Mary's Church, Oxford, Ohio: October 2023

A church sign opposing Ohio Issue 1, a ballot measure in support of amending the state constitution to protect abortion, was cut in half, and many other similar church signs were vandalized or stolen.³⁵¹

St. Monica-St. George Church, Cincinnati, Ohio: October 2023

The church's "Vote no on Issue 1" sign was pulled out of the ground and thrown in a dumpster. The church recovered the sign, but it was later stolen. Ohio Issue 1 was a ballot measure in support of amending the state constitution to protect abortion.³⁵²

First Baptist Church, Belfast, Maine: October 2023

Graffiti was found on the church's dumpster and pavement.³⁵³

Woodland Hills Community Church, Woodland Hills, California: October 2023*

On October 21, a MeetUp group gathered at the church without permission and tried to get in. When questioned by church staff, the MeetUp group members reportedly responded with "aggressive and racial threats." That same day, a rainbow peace sign artwork at the church was defaced with black spray-paint. The sign was spray-painted again on October 26, this time with graffiti and "USA." On October 27, copper materials were stolen from the building's exterior. Then, on October 30 and 31, a person "damaged and stole" security cameras and flood lights.³⁵⁴

Mary Queen of Heaven Catholic Church, Elmhurst, Illinois: October 1, 2023

A pro-life display of 1,000 wooden crosses representing the lives of the unborn was pulled up out of the church lawn.³⁵⁵

Unidentified church, Gordon County, Georgia: October 1, 2023

An incendiary device similar to a Molotov cocktail was thrown at the church, causing a fire in the parking lot that burned itself out.³⁵⁶

St. Paul Catholic Church, Fenton, Missouri: October 2, 2023

The church's pro-life display, consisting of many white crosses on the lawn and a banner saying, "Pray to End Abortion," was vandalized with red paint. The message "Pro-life is a lie, you don't care if people die" was spray-painted on the banner.³⁵⁷

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, Madawaska, Maine: October 2, 2023

A man vandalized the church, causing hundreds of thousands of dollars of damage to the pipe organ, marble walls, windows, and other items, after which he sat inside the church until police arrived.³⁵⁸

Mission Bible Fellowship Church, Seeley Lake, Montana: October 3, 2023

A woman started a fire near a propane tank located near the church building.³⁵⁹

Rush Hill Community Church, Rush Hill, Missouri: October 3, 2023

Several teenagers broke into the church and stole a number of items, including televisions, speakers, and keys to the building and the church van. Some of the items were found nearby and in the home of one of the perpetrators.³⁶⁰

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, East Bridgewater, Massachusetts: October 6, 2023

Two juveniles vandalized the church and set the altar cloth and a Bible on fire.³⁶¹

Miracle Faith Christian Center, Columbia, South Carolina: October 7, 2023

The church's marquee was spray-painted with "Their is no God" and other markings.³⁶²

St. Mark The Evangelist Catholic Church, Tampa, Florida: October 8, 2023

A man started a fire inside the church.³⁶³

United Methodist Church, Brady Township, Pennsylvania: October 8, 2023

A homophobic slur reportedly was spray-painted on the side of the church.³⁶⁴

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Broussard, Louisiana: October 9, 2023

The church's statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus was damaged. Several nearby businesses were also vandalized.³⁶⁵

Sacred Heart Church, Cicero, New York: October 13, 2023

A man entered the church claiming to be with Hamas and made threats to the staff, telling one that "today was going to be bad, he was Hamas." The man eventually left and was found by the police.³⁶⁶

Unidentified church, Gordon County, Georgia: October 13, 2023

An incendiary device similar to a Molotov cocktail was thrown into a wooded area beside the church. Someone saw the incident and extinguished the fire.³⁶⁷

Fellowship Church, Brocton, New York: October 16, 2023

A fire was set outside the church's front door within 40 minutes of a similar fire at a nearby church. At their peak, the fires were three to five feet tall, and the worst of the damage was burn marks on the doors and ground. Officials are unsure if the fires were set by an attempted arsonist or a homeless person out of necessity.³⁶⁸

Tri-Church Parish, Brocton, New York: October 16, 2023

A fire was set outside the church's front door within 40 minutes of a similar fire at a nearby church. At their peak, the fires were three to five feet tall, and the worst of the damage was burn marks on the doors and ground. Officials are unsure if the fires were set by an attempted arsonist or a homeless person out of necessity. This church's building had been burned down in an arson attack approximately 10 years prior and was rebuilt.³⁶⁹

All Saints Episcopal Church, Jensen Beach, Florida: October 17, 2023*

A 110-year-old gravestone in the church's cemetery was knocked over, and another headstone was moved out of place. The first gravestone is too heavy for one person to move, so it was thought to be intentional. The church was vandalized a week before, when the windows of its shed were broken and its fence damaged.³⁷⁰

Church of the Incarnation Parish, Centerville, Ohio: October 18, 2023

Someone spray-painted the church's front door window to cover up a sign opposing Ohio Issue 1, a ballot measure in support of amending the state constitution to protect abortion.³⁷¹

West Asheville Church, Asheville, North Carolina: October 18-19, 2023*

The church was broken into two days in a row. The vandal broke into the shed and a member's car and stole lawn equipment and tools from the shed.³⁷²

United Christian Church, Renton, Washington: October 21, 2023

The church's display of rainbow doors with the message "On Earth as in Heaven God's doors are open to all" was run over with a vehicle and damaged.³⁷³

Redemption Church, Spokane, Washington: October 22, 2023

The church has been a victim of repeated vandalism with broken windows and graffiti. Most recently, an intoxicated individual banged on the front doors while a service was in progress. The church has been trying to move due to the high crime in the area, but the vandalism has made it difficult to sell the building.³⁷⁴

The Church of Morning Glory, Morgantown, West Virginia: October 23, 2023

A man broke into the church through a front window and set a fire in the bathroom. The man hit the burglar alarm and fled when the flames grew, although police were able to apprehend him.³⁷⁵

Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston, Massachusetts: October 24, 2023

Observers saw a man climb a crucifix statue outside of the church and swing from it, causing its arms and other pieces to break. The resulting damage was estimated at \$20,000.³⁷⁶

Davis Community Church, Davis, California: October 26, 2023

A cinder block was thrown through a church window.³⁷⁷

New Jerusalem Baptist Church, Tyler, Texas: October 26, 2023

One of the church's side doors was spray-painted with what appears to be the word "jaywalk."³⁷⁸

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Vancouver, Washington: October 28, 2023*

The church's display of rainbow doors was vandalized with red paint and damaged. The display was also vandalized in June during Pride Month.³⁷⁹

Christian Fellowship Church Sandy Cross, Elm City, North Carolina: October 28, 2023

An Israeli flag displayed outside the church was torn down, cut up, and thrown into a drainage area.³⁸⁰

Holy Innocents Episcopal Church, Parmelee, South Dakota: October 28, 2023*

The church was completely destroyed by a fire suspected to be arson. Dating back to 1890, the church was historically significant for the Rosebud Indian Reservation. Services had not been held in the building since a vandalism incident a year before, but the church had plans to open before Christmas.³⁸¹

Jesus Comes First Ministries, Lexington, North Carolina: October 28, 2023

The church was destroyed in a fire ruled suspicious. The fire caused extensive smoke and water damage, rendering the structure uninhabitable. The food pantry and music ministry were primarily affected.³⁸²

Bethlehem Church, Austin, Texas: October 29, 2023

A vandal spray-painted "Lucifer Lives Here" near the front entrance and "God No More" on a set of doors.³⁸³

North Hall Church, Gainesville, Georgia: October 29, 2023

Vandals spray-painted “Free Palestine” on the church’s “We Stand with Israel” sign.³⁸⁴

Saints Peter and Paul Church, San Francisco, California: October 29, 2023

A man received Communion but did not consume the host (bread). After being confronted about it, the man punched the person who confronted him and ran out. Police pursued the man, who reportedly “set off a pipe bomb” and ignited a “Molotov cocktail” to deter police.³⁸⁵

St. Bartholomew Catholic Church, Cincinnati, Ohio: October 29-30, 2023

Multiple “Vote No on Issue 1” yard signs were removed from the church’s property and replaced with “Vote Yes” signs. Ohio Issue 1 was a ballot measure in support of amending the state constitution to protect abortion.³⁸⁶

St. Andrew Avellino Roman Catholic Church, New York, New York: October 30, 2023

The church’s 110-year-old statue of Mary was vandalized with the right hand broken off and the left hand damaged.³⁸⁷

Holy Family Catholic Church, Portland, Oregon: October 31, 2023

Vandals shattered stained glass and spray-painted what appeared to be an attempt at a pentagram on the building.³⁸⁸

Christ Redeeming Community Church, San Antonio, Texas: November 2023

Vandals destroyed four commercial air conditioning units belonging to the church.³⁸⁹

St. Casimir Church, Cleveland, Ohio: November 2023

The church was vandalized.³⁹⁰

First Christian Church, Grove, Oklahoma: November 1, 2023

A woman broke into the church through a window and started a fire inside the building.³⁹¹

Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, New York, New York: November 1, 2023

Someone removed the hands of an over 100-year-old Sacred Heart of Jesus statue that stands in front of the church rectory and beheaded a statue of St. Francis of Assisi located in the church's 9/11 memorial garden.³⁹²

The Church at Decatur Heights, Decatur, Georgia: November 1, 2023

Someone vandalized the church's "We stand with Israel" sign by spray-painting "Israel's Genocide" on it.³⁹³

Iglesia Profética Antioquia, Denton, Texas: November 4, 2023

Two of the church's windows were shattered.³⁹⁴

Cathedral of the Annunciation, Stockton, California: November 5, 2023

Someone threw white paint on the church's front doors, message boards, and steps.³⁹⁵

The Salvation Army of Osceola County, Kissimmee, Florida: November 6, 2023

The ministry building was vandalized and set on fire. Earlier in the day, the perpetrator had made threats to staff, including, "I'm setting the Salvation Army on fire." The facility's kitchen, food pantry, and washer and dryer were damaged.³⁹⁶

Bethesda United Methodist Church, Bethesda, Maryland: November 7, 2023

The church's Pride banner was torn.³⁹⁷

Mt. Zion Apostolic Church, Visalia, California: November 8, 2023

Two teenagers broke several of the church's windows, causing over \$1,000 in damages.³⁹⁸

Greater Unity Tabernacle Christian Church, Fayetteville, North Carolina: November 9, 2023

The church was spray-painted with vulgar and racist language and symbols.³⁹⁹

Soul Harvest Church of God, Knoxville, Tennessee: November 11, 2023

A woman set fire to clothes and cardboard boxes in the church's storage room. She then told church staff about the fire. Because staff was able to respond quickly, the fire did minimal damage.⁴⁰⁰

St. Andrew Catholic Church, Eagle River, Alaska: November 11, 2023*

Vandals spray-painted phallic symbols on the front and side walls of the church's exterior. It was the third time in 18 months that the church had been targeted.⁴⁰¹

Apostolic Church International Ministry, Alexandria, Virginia: November 12, 2023

A man was fatally stabbed inside the church building.⁴⁰²

Lake Houston Methodist Church, Huffman, Texas: November 12, 2023

A man was shot in the church parking lot after he threatened the church. After the man threatened a church member, saying "Today is going to be the day," police and a member that works for Texas EquuSearch were alerted. When the Texas EquuSearch worker arrived at the parking lot, the man who had made the threats ran at him, and the worker fired at him, killing him.⁴⁰³

Martin Memorial AME Church, Miami, Florida: November 12, 2023

A woman was arrested after she and possibly a second perpetrator threw bricks at the church, breaking several stained glass windows and causing \$10,000 in damages.⁴⁰⁴

Simon Temple AME Zion Church, Fayetteville, North Carolina: November 12, 2023

A bomb threat was called in to the church, but the police did not find anything.⁴⁰⁵

Asbury United Methodist Church, Memphis, Tennessee: November 13, 2023

A man broke into the church by breaking a window with a brick. He then poured a liquid inside and lit it on fire. The fire caused \$3,000 in damages to the church.⁴⁰⁶

Churches United for the Homeless, Moorhead, Minnesota: November 13, 2023

A vandal broke a window and tried to remove it.⁴⁰⁷

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Milpitas, California: November 16, 2023

Someone broke into the church, rummaged through drawers and cabinets, opened the tabernacle and stole items from inside it, ripped the safe from the wall, and stole donation money.⁴⁰⁸

Ezra Conference Center, Raleigh, North Carolina: November 17, 2023

The building, which houses a church, was set on fire and sustained damages amounting to \$1,000.⁴⁰⁹

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Bakersfield, California: November 17, 2023

A bomb threat was sent to about 500 email addresses, including the church. No bombs were found to validate the threat.⁴¹⁰

Enfield Congregational, United Church of Christ, Enfield, Connecticut: November 18-19, 2023

Someone wrote “moral decay” on benches in front of the church and “sin” on a statue outside the front door. Before a service the church dedicated to commemorating Transgender Day of Remembrance, a man stood on the front steps holding a sign “with an offensive message.” A “hateful Google review” was also written about the church.⁴¹¹

Full Life Church, Fremont, Nebraska: November 19, 2023

A man sent a text to a congregant threatening to commit a violent act at the church. The man tried to enter the church and was stopped by the church’s security team. After threatening the team, the man left and was chased down by police. A knife was found in the man’s backpack.⁴¹²

Missoula Church of the Nazarene, Missoula, Montana: November 19-20, 2023*

A package was left at the church. Threatening messages were written on items inside the box, and a white power substance turned out to be a mixture of harmless chemicals. The next day, another package was left at the church with a note saying there was a bomb inside. No bombs were found, but a suspect who had been harassing the pastor was arrested.⁴¹³

Keoke Chapel United Methodist Church, Paradise Valley, Pennsylvania: November 20, 2023

The church's American flag was burned. The fire was extinguished before it could damage the building.⁴¹⁴

Vacant church building, Molino, Florida: November 20, 2023

Someone broke into the building, discharged fire extinguishers, spilled cleaning chemicals, broke through walls, shattered glass, and broke the flagpole outside. The church was vacant and had just been purchased.⁴¹⁵

Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission, Irwindale, California: November 22, 2023

A vandal broke into the church, smashed a stained glass window, and ransacked the building.⁴¹⁶

South Parkway East Church of Christ, Memphis, Tennessee: November 23, 2023

A large rock was thrown through the church's front window.⁴¹⁷

Iglesia Centro Familiar Nueva Vida Internacional, Los Fresnos, Texas: November 24, 2023

The church was badly damaged after being set on fire.⁴¹⁸

St. Joseph Church's Chapel, Carpinteria, California: November 25, 2023

Four windows and a statue of Mary were vandalized.⁴¹⁹

New Beginnings Baptist Church, Festus, Missouri: November 26, 2023

A Quality Inn conference room that the church rents was vandalized. Costumes for an upcoming Christmas play were stolen and the room was "trashed." The door was taken off its hinges, a swastika was scratched on the table, and someone had defecated in a trash can. The church experienced similar vandalism in the hotel room a month before.⁴²⁰

Wesley United Methodist Church, Waterbury, Vermont: November 28, 2023

A man vandalized one of the church's ground-level windows.⁴²¹

Unidentified church, Deltona, Florida: November 29, 2023

An 18-year-old had made repeated threats over the past several years praising multiple mass shooters and commenting “I’m going to shoot up a church next” on YouTube videos. After many threats, the FBI contacted local police and he was arrested.⁴²²

St. Mary Catholic Church, Indianapolis, Indiana: November 30, 2023

Vandals destroyed the statue of St. Joseph that stood on the steps of the church. When the vandals pulled down the heavy statue, they also damaged the church’s steps. The church had just spent millions of dollars to repair the front of the church prior to the vandalism.⁴²³

2022

Flowertown Baptist Church, Summerville, South Carolina: January 4, 2022

Someone broke into the church, destroyed windows, set items on fire, turned a stove on in the kitchen, and stole \$3,000 in property.⁴²⁴

Hopeland Church, Vandalia, Ohio: January 5, 2022

Approximately \$10,000 worth of equipment belonging to the church was damaged, including a computer, televisions, and a copier. The previous month, a church nativity scene and a van in the parking lot were set on fire.⁴²⁵

Burns United Methodist Church, Des Moines, Iowa: January 9, 2022

The church was the recipient of a bomb threat.⁴²⁶

St. Phillips Moravian Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina: January 9, 2022

The church was the recipient of a bomb threat.⁴²⁷

St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, Fresno, California: January 14, 2022

A 100-year-old tabernacle was vandalized, causing \$35,000 in damages.⁴²⁸

St. Timothy Catholic Church, San Antonio, Texas: January 16, 2022

Police arrested a man armed with a gun who tried to interrupt mass, sending parishioners fleeing. Another man was waiting for him in a van outside the church.⁴²⁹

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, District of Columbia: January 20, 2022*

Pro-abortion slogans were projected onto the exterior of the building.⁴³⁰

Church of the Nativity, Burke, Virginia: January 26, 2022

A statue of Our Lady of Fatima was vandalized.⁴³¹

Immaculate Heart of Mary, Greenwood, Mississippi: January 27, 2022

The church was ransacked, and paintings, statues, and the altar were severely damaged.⁴³²

Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, San Francisco, California: February 2022

Pro-abortion protestors disrupted mass dressed as characters from Hulu's "The Handmaid's Tale" based on the novel by Margaret Atwood.⁴³³

Flatrock Baptist Church, Floyd County, Georgia: February 1, 2022

Racial slurs and threats were written on the church's exterior walls.⁴³⁴

Assumption Parish, St. Louis, Missouri: February 8, 2022

A man was charged with making false bomb threats against the church.⁴³⁵

Springfield Pentecostal Holiness, Laurel Hill, North Carolina: February 11, 2022

Someone broke into the church and stole property before setting the building on fire. The extent of the damage resulted in the building being deemed a total loss.⁴³⁶

St. Therese of the Infant Jesus Catholic Church's Shrine of the Little Flower, Albuquerque, New Mexico: February 14, 2022

Someone threw objects at the church's stained glass windows, causing \$20,000 in damages.⁴³⁷

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Milledgeville, Georgia: February 17, 2022

Someone damaged two angel statues outside the church.⁴³⁸

St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, San Antonio, Texas: February 23, 2022

A statue of the Holy Family was stolen from outside the church in the middle of the night.⁴³⁹

St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church, Baltimore, Maryland: February 28, 2022

Almost 50 headstones at a Ukrainian Catholic cemetery were vandalized.⁴⁴⁰

Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: March 2022

A statue of St. John Neumann, who was the fourth bishop of Philadelphia and was instrumental in the creation of the Catholic school system, was destroyed.⁴⁴¹

Holy Family Catholic Church, Jacksonville, Florida: March 1, 2022

Statues depicting Jesus, Mary, and Joseph were vandalized with satanic imagery.⁴⁴²

Community Church of Christ in Jamaica, New York, New York: March 8, 2022

Church windows were broken with a large stick.⁴⁴³

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Royal Oak, Michigan: March 8, 2022

A statue of Mary was vandalized, as well as the interior and exterior of the building.⁴⁴⁴

Hillcrest Baptist Church, Yazoo City, Mississippi: March 10, 2022

Grass on the church property and multiple items were set on fire with gasoline.⁴⁴⁵

Main Street Baptist Church, Bartow, Florida: March 13, 2022

The church building was destroyed in an arson attack.⁴⁴⁶

Journey Church of Sonora, Sonora, California: March 19, 2022

The church building was destroyed in an arson attack.⁴⁴⁷

St. Anthony's Catholic Church, North Beach, Maryland: April 1, 2022

A crucifix, a stained-glass window, a stone angel, multiple candles and candleholders, an organ, and a piano were damaged when someone entered the church and ransacked it.⁴⁴⁸

Cristo Rey Catholic Church, Austin, Texas: April 8, 2022

Thirty windows and the front door were damaged by someone throwing rocks at the church.⁴⁴⁹

Two churches in Waco, Texas: April 11 and 13, 2022

Two churches in Waco, Texas, were threatened over the phone, prompting police investigations.⁴⁵⁰

Peace United Church of Christ, Rochester, Minnesota: April 18, 2022

An arson attack caused more than \$2.5 million in damages.⁴⁵¹

Bethlehem Baptist Church, Hybla Valley, Virginia: April 27, 2022

Glass from the church door was shattered.⁴⁵²

St. John Baptist Church, Hybla Valley, Virginia: April 27, 2022

A church door was broken into, and there was evidence that someone had smoked inside the building.⁴⁵³

Gracelife Chapel, Pevely, Missouri: April 2022*

A woman threatened to blow up the church and was charged with second-degree making a terrorist threat.⁴⁵⁴

Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Boulder, Colorado: May 3, 2022*

The church was vandalized with pro-abortion messages on the building, and some of its windows were broken.⁴⁵⁵

St. Andrew Catholic Church, Eagle River, Alaska: May 4, 2022*

The church was vandalized with inappropriate spray-painted symbols and nails scattered across the parking lot. The act is thought to have been a response to the church hosting a conservative Catholic speaker on the topic of gender identity.⁴⁵⁶

St. Joseph's Church and Academy, Armada, Michigan: May 5, 2022

The church was vandalized with satanic symbols and messages calling for the death of Republicans.⁴⁵⁷

St. John XXIII Catholic Church, Fort Collins, Colorado: May 7, 2022

Someone spray painted the church's front doors and broke glass windows.⁴⁵⁸

The Basilica of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral, New York, New York: May 7, 2022*

After a draft of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* was leaked, bomb threats were issued against the church and a Franciscan friar was heckled. Security measures were tightened as a result.⁴⁵⁹

Cathedral of Christ the King, Atlanta, Georgia: May 8, 2022

On Mother's Day, abortion supporters protested outside the church and staged a "die-in" with fake blood while mass was taking place inside.⁴⁶⁰

Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles, California: May 8, 2022

Protestors in red, hooded gowns representing characters from Hulu's "The Handmaid's Tale" interrupted mass.⁴⁶¹

Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Houston, Texas: May 8, 2022

The message "Pro-Choice is Pro-Life" was painted on the church's main entrance and a side door.⁴⁶²

St. Bartholomew the Apostle Catholic Church, Katy, Texas: May 8, 2022

The church's tabernacle was stolen.⁴⁶³

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Houston, Texas: May 9, 2022

Someone tried to desecrate the Eucharist, likely in relation to pro-abortion protests.⁴⁶⁴

St. Louis Catholic Church, Louisville, Colorado: May 9, 2022*

The church was spray painted with the message "My body, my choice."⁴⁶⁵

Elliston Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee: May 13, 2022

The church building was destroyed in an arson attack.⁴⁶⁶

Irvine Taiwanese Presbyterian Church, Laguna Woods, California: May 15, 2022

A shooter opened fire on a lunch reception until church members stopped him. One person died, and five were wounded.⁴⁶⁷

Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, New York, New York: May 17, 2022

Statues were beheaded and smashed.⁴⁶⁸

St. David the King Church, West Windsor, New Jersey: May 17 and 26, 2022*

A statue in the church parking lot was vandalized following another instance of vandalism outside the church in the preceding week.⁴⁶⁹

Pitts Chapel United Methodist Church, Springfield, Missouri: May 18, 2022

A swastika was spray-painted on the side of a historically Black church.⁴⁷⁰

St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania: May 20, 2022*

Vandals ripped rain gutter pipes off the church building and stole copper panels from the roof.⁴⁷¹

Calvary Church, Olympia, Washington: May 22, 2022

The anarchist group “Jane’s Revenge” spray-painted pro-abortion messages onto the church’s exterior. The vandalism was motivated by the church’s connection to pregnancy resource centers.⁴⁷²

Church of Latter-Day Saints, Olympia, Washington: May 22, 2022

The anarchist group “Jane’s Revenge” spray-painted pro-abortion messages onto the church’s exterior. The vandalism was motivated by the church’s connection to pregnancy resource centers.⁴⁷³

Harbor Church, Olympia, Washington: May 22, 2022

The anarchist group “Jane’s Revenge” spray-painted pro-abortion messages onto the church’s exterior. The vandalism was motivated by the church’s connection to pregnancy resource centers.⁴⁷⁴

St. Michael’s Catholic Church, Olympia, Washington: May 22, 2022

The anarchist group “Jane’s Revenge” spray-painted pro-abortion messages onto the church’s exterior. The vandalism was motivated by the church’s connection to pregnancy resource centers.⁴⁷⁵

Mt. Avery Missionary Baptist Church, Columbus, Mississippi: May 23, 2022

The church was spray-painted with pro-abortion messages.⁴⁷⁶

St. Augustine Catholic Church, New York, New York: May 28, 2022

The tabernacle was stolen, and statues of angels on the altar were beheaded and destroyed.⁴⁷⁷

Sierra Foothills Community Church, Oakdale, California: June 2022

The church experienced multiple incidences of someone throwing rocks through the windows. Police believed the suspect was targeting churches.⁴⁷⁸

St. Mary Catholic Church, Vinton, Iowa: June 2022

A pro-life sign outside of the church that read “Choose Life” was defaced; the message “Pro Choice, My Body My Choice” was spray-spayed over the sign.⁴⁷⁹

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Oakdale, California: June 2022

The church was the target of multiple vandalisms, including broken windows and repeated damage to a sprinkler system.⁴⁸⁰

St. Pius X Catholic Church, Mountlake Terrace, Washington: June 2022*

The church was vandalized around the time of the U.S. Supreme Court's *Dobbs* decision that overturned *Roe v. Wade*. Parishioners believed the church was targeted for being pro-life.⁴⁸¹

Cornerstone Church, Ames, Iowa: June 2, 2022

A shooting killed three people during the church's college ministry program.⁴⁸²

Lakewood Church, Houston, Texas: June 5, 2022

Protestors interrupted a service, stripped down to their underwear, and chanted, "My body, my choice."⁴⁸³

Redemption to the Nations Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee: June 10, 2022

The historic Phillips Chapel building owned by the church was set on fire and nearly burned down.⁴⁸⁴

St. Veronica Church, Eastpointe, Michigan: June 12, 2022

A pro-abortion protester interrupted mass and yelled, "Overturn *Roe*? Hell, no!" along with other pro-abortion messages.⁴⁸⁵

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Vestavia Hills, Alabama: June 17, 2022

A gunman opened fire at the church and killed three people.⁴⁸⁶

St. Margaret's Catholic Church, Buffalo, New York: June 23, 2022

Statues outside the church were beheaded, and the church's gardens were damaged.⁴⁸⁷

Guardian Angel Roman Catholic Church, New York, New York: June 24, 2022

The church was vandalized with pro-abortion messages, including “Separation [*sic*] Btwn Church + State.”⁴⁸⁸

All Saints Catholic Church, Portland, Oregon: June 25, 2022

The church was vandalized with the message, “If abortions aren’t safe, neither are you.”⁴⁸⁹

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church, New Orleans, Louisiana: June 25, 2022

A statue outside the church that honored the unborn victims of abortion was defaced.⁴⁹⁰

St. Anthony’s Catholic Church, Harlingen, Texas: June 25, 2022

Two angel statues were stolen, and a statue of the Virgin Mary was knocked over.⁴⁹¹

St. Anthony’s Catholic Parish, Renton, Washington: June 25, 2022

Several stained-glass windows were destroyed, and hateful messages were spray-painted in the church.⁴⁹²

St. John Neumann Catholic Church, Reston, Virginia: June 25, 2022

The church was vandalized with crude messages, and police investigated the possibility of arson due to a small fire on the property.⁴⁹³

St. Patrick Catholic Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: June 25 and July 12, 2022*

On June 25, the phrase “Abort the church” was spray painted on a corner of the church building. On July 12, the church doors were vandalized with the pro-abortion message “My body my choice” and obscenities.⁴⁹⁴

St. Phillips AME Church, Tallahassee, Florida: June 25, 2022

The church sign was vandalized with a pro-abortion message.⁴⁹⁵

St. Teresa's of Avila Catholic Church, Hutchinson, Kansas: June 25, 2022

A pro-life sign was vandalized ahead of a vote on a pro-life amendment in Kansas.⁴⁹⁶

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and St. Joseph School, Chicago, Illinois: June 26, 2022

Pro-abortion activists disrupted mass, shouted slogans, distributed flyers, and displayed a sign that read, "The Catholic Church has Blood on its Hands."⁴⁹⁷

St. Colman Catholic Church, Shady Spring, West Virginia: June 26, 2022

The historic church building was destroyed in an arson attack.⁴⁹⁸

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Chicago, Illinois: June 26, 2022

Protestors interrupted mass, yelling and carrying signs with sayings such as "The Catholic Church had blood on its hands."⁴⁹⁹

Ascension Roman Catholic Church, New York, New York: June 27, 2022

The church was vandalized with aggressive pro-abortion messages.⁵⁰⁰

Hinson Baptist Church, Portland, Oregon: June 27, 2022

During a march protesting the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe*, a crowd of protestors vandalized the church, leaving behind obscenities and pro-abortion slogans, including "Abort the Court," "My trans," and "Abortion is a human right."⁵⁰¹

St. Brendan the Voyager Orthodox Church, Bullhead City, Arizona: June 27, 2022

Someone threw a rock through a church window.⁵⁰²

St. George Catholic Church, Framingham, Massachusetts: June 27, 2022

Red paint was splattered on a statue and the church entrance.⁵⁰³

St. Therese Little Flower Catholic Church, South Bend, Indiana: June 27, 2022

A memorial cross for unborn babies killed via abortion was vandalized.⁵⁰⁴

St. Louise Catholic Church, Bellevue, Washington: June 28, 2022

The church was spray-painted with hateful anti-Catholic messages, and some of its windows were broken.⁵⁰⁵

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Lorain, Ohio: June 30, 2022

An arsonist set fire to the school belonging to a Catholic church, causing \$1 million in fire damage.⁵⁰⁶

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Halstead, Kansas: July 2022

A sign supporting a pro-life ballot initiative was pushed out of its wooden frame.⁵⁰⁷

St. Bernard Catholic Church, Weston, West Virginia: July 2022*

Someone climbed through a stained glass window and vandalized the church, causing extensive damage.⁵⁰⁸

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Bakersfield, California: July 2022

Stained glass windows were smashed, causing an estimated \$20,000 in damages.⁵⁰⁹

Holy Ghost Parish, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin: July 1, 2022

The church was spray-painted with pro-abortion messages.⁵¹⁰

Holy Redeemer Church, Portland, Oregon: July 1, 2022*

Police drove away anarchist rioters who had planned a pro-abortion rally to “Abolish SCOTUS” following the U.S. Supreme Court’s *Dobbs* decision.⁵¹¹

Notre Dame Catholic Church, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin: July 1, 2022

The church was spray-painted with pro-abortion messages.⁵¹²

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin: July 1, 2022

The church was spray-painted with pro-abortion messages.⁵¹³

St. Peter's Catholic Church, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin: July 1, 2022

The church was spray-painted with pro-abortion messages.⁵¹⁴

Ramsey Freewill Baptist Church, Norton, Virginia: July 2, 2022

Arson caused smoke damage to the church building and fire damage to several church pews and a wall.⁵¹⁵

St. Bernard Catholic Church, Madison, Wisconsin: July 2, 2022

The church was vandalized with pro-abortion and anti-police messages.⁵¹⁶

The Basilica of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral, New York, New York: July 2, 2022*

Angry pro-abortion protestors disrupted mass.⁵¹⁷

Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia: July 3, 2022

A historic Black church, considered the spiritual home of Martin Luther King Jr., was vandalized with spray paint reading: "If abortions aren't safe neither are you."⁵¹⁸

Holy Family Catholic Church, Hillsborough, North Carolina: July 3, 2022

The church was defaced with hateful, satanic, and pro-abortion messages.⁵¹⁹

Bible Missionary Church, Sumner, Washington: July 6, 2022

The church building was vandalized with the anarchist symbol and an upside-down cross.⁵²⁰

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, Ontario, Oregon: July 7, 2022

A pro-life sign displayed outside the church that read "A baby is a person no matter how small" was vandalized.⁵²¹

St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Upland, California: July 7, 2022

Someone entered the church, set a small fire, and began threatening to kill everyone in the church, prompting his arrest.⁵²²

ACTS Center, Redlands, California: July 8, 2022

The church was vandalized three times in one week with curse words and anti-Christian messages.⁵²³

North Bethesda United Methodist Church, Bethesda, Maryland: July 9, 2022

The church was set on fire in an arson attack.⁵²⁴

St. John Neumann Parish, Lower Township, New Jersey: July 9, 2022

A pro-life sign remembering the unborn victims of abortion was vandalized with the message, “Defenestrate babies.”⁵²⁵

St. Patrick Church, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania: July 9, 2022

Two people damaged statues outside of the church.⁵²⁶

Wildwood Baptist Church, Bethesda, Maryland: July 9, 2022

A fire was started outside the church, and headstones in the adjacent cemetery were damaged.⁵²⁷

Church of the Ascension, Overland Park, Kansas: July 10, 2022

A vandal painted explicit words and the phrase “My body, my choice” on the church and defaced a statue of Mary.⁵²⁸

St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish, Bethesda, Maryland: July 10, 2022

Multiple fires were set as part of an arson attack.⁵²⁹

Kingdom Celebration Center, Gambrills, Maryland: July 11, 2022

An African American church was vandalized with racist slurs inscribed onto the church door.⁵³⁰

Cedarville Baptist Church, Cedarville, Illinois: July 14, 2022

The church was vandalized with explicit language and anarchist symbols.⁵³¹

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, Long Beach, Mississippi: July 15, 2022

Two statues in the church garden were damaged.⁵³²

Allen Chapel AME Church, Delano, California: July 17, 2022*

A vandal spray-painted the N-word on a church sign, on windows, in front of the church, on a brick facade, on the walkway, and on trash cans.⁵³³

Three Hierarchs Greek Orthodox Church, New York, New York: July 17, 2022

Someone scaled the exterior of the church and splattered black paint on the building.⁵³⁴

St. Boniface Catholic Church, Springfield, Georgia: July 20, 2022

A billboard in front of the church that read “God doesn’t make mistakes. Choose life!” was defaced by spray paint and a vile message overnight.⁵³⁵

Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Houma, Louisiana: July 22, 2022

Someone damaged three statues outside the church.⁵³⁶

Holy Family Catholic Church, Kingsburg, California: July 23, 2022

Statues of Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus were beheaded by a vandal.⁵³⁷

Evangelical Lutheran Emmanuel Church, Dubois, Indiana: July 25, 2022

The church was broken into, the property was vandalized, and several items were stolen.⁵³⁸

Calvary Temple Assembly of God, Lawrence, Kansas: July 31, 2022

The church was vandalized with the pro-abortion slogan “My body, my choice” and “Vote no,” referring to Kansas’ pro-life amendment on the ballot at the time.⁵³⁹

Victory Baptist Church, Lawrence, Kansas: July 31, 2022

Vandals defaced the church with pro-abortion graffiti, including messages such as “Protect Choice” and “Vote no,” referring to Kansas’ pro-life amendment on the ballot at the time.⁵⁴⁰

San Clemente Mission Parish, East Bakersfield, California: August 2, 2022

The church experienced multiple vandalisms over the span of a few months. In one particularly bad incident, surveillance cameras showed someone breaking the head off a statue outside the church and placing dead birds on statues.⁵⁴¹

The Basilica of St Patrick's Old Cathedral, New York, New York: August 6, 2022

Pro-abortion rioters harassed parishioners during a regularly scheduled pro-life gathering, screaming, "Tell those Nazis to come out." Police made multiple arrests of pro-abortion protestors.⁵⁴²

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, Denver, Colorado: August 6 and 8, 2022*

Two drive-by shootings were carried out by a gunman after hours, targeting the doors and stained-glass windows of the church. No one was hurt.⁵⁴³

The Promised Land Church, Spartanburg, South Carolina: August 16, 2022

Signs belonging to the church and Christian school were vandalized. The pastor thinks the church was targeted due to its strong anti-abortion stance.⁵⁴⁴

St. Mary's Church, Evansville, Indiana: August 17, 2022

A glass window was destroyed, and a door was busted out of its frame overnight.⁵⁴⁵

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Glens Falls, New York: August 19, 2022

A pro-life memorial for unborn babies was vandalized outside the church. Graffiti with the word "Allah" was also left on an outdoor event tent at the church in the same incident.⁵⁴⁶

Stonebridge United Methodist Church, McKinney, Texas: August 28, 2022

The building was vandalized with a racist slur, curse words, multiple swastikas, and the ominous message "Not my best work yet..."⁵⁴⁷

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church, Houston, Texas: August 29, 2022

The church was burglarized, and cash was stolen from the offering box. Candlesticks and windows were also smashed in the incident.⁵⁴⁸

St. Andrew the Apostle Church, Gibbsboro, New Jersey: August 30, 2022

An Our Lady of Fatima statue, one of only four statues like it, was stolen from church grounds.⁵⁴⁹

Live Oak Baptist Church, Gatesville, Texas: September 3, 2022

Surveillance cameras caught someone entering the main sanctuary of the church and then leaving, followed by smoke because of a fire that had been set.⁵⁵⁰

Victory Baptist Church, Los Angeles, California: September 11, 2022

A historic church burned to the ground after a suspected arson attack.⁵⁵¹

Our Lady of the Angels Church, Sauk Centre, Minnesota: September 16, 2022

Intoxicated vandals caused extensive damage to the interior of the church, including broken statues.⁵⁵²

St. Hyacinth Church, Detroit, Michigan: September 19, 2022

A church was robbed of donated items that were going to be raffled off during a fundraising event. Windows were also smashed in the incident.⁵⁵³

St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania: September 22, 2022*

Thieves climbed up to the steeple and removed copper panels. This was the third time vandals had targeted the church using the same method.⁵⁵⁴

Eureka Seventh Day Adventist Church, Eureka, California: September 24-26, 2022

A church was defaced with hateful messages.⁵⁵⁵

First Covenant Church, Eureka, California: September 24-26, 2022

A church was defaced with graffiti.⁵⁵⁶

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Arcata, California: September 24-26, 2022

A church was defaced with graffiti.⁵⁵⁷

The Humboldt Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Bayside, California: September 24-26, 2022

A church was defaced with politically themed graffiti, including messages such as "Kill MAGA/Pigs," "BLM," "Antifa," "Wok-Up," and "666."⁵⁵⁸

St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, New York: September 26, 2022*

Pro-abortion protestors shouted "f--- the church" and other obscenities outside the church.⁵⁵⁹

Newport Lutheran Church Cemetery, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin: October 2022

A family was targeted with threats and vandalism of the family's gravesites in the church's cemetery. The headstones were knocked over, and threatening notes were left at the family's home. The family says their gravestones were knocked over before in June 2015.⁵⁶⁰

Rose Lawn Missionary Baptist Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma: October 2022

Juveniles were caught on camera stealing from and vandalizing the church four times in 10 days. They broke doors and windows, shattered vases and coffee pots, hammered holes in the walls, and spray-painted all over the church.⁵⁶¹

Nativity Lutheran Church, Wonder Lake, Illinois: October 3, 2022

Vandals blacked out the church's floodlights and spray-painted the building with a swastika, an upside-down cross, a racial slur, and other markings. The church's sign was also tagged with "tax the rich" and "I [heart] god."⁵⁶²

Holy Family Cathedral Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma: October 5, 2022

A man attacked a church employee with a sword and threw two Molotov cocktails at the church's exterior. The employee was transported to a hospital for surgery.⁵⁶³

Victory Baptist Church, London, Kentucky: October 6, 2022

A surveillance camera caught two vandals cutting holes in the gas tanks of two church buses in the church's parking lot. When the vandals were arrested, police found several needles and meth in their possession.⁵⁶⁴

Church of the Resurrection, Lansing, Michigan: October 8, 2022

Three individuals vandalized the church doors, sign, and sidewalk with graffiti that included pro-abortion and anti-church messages.⁵⁶⁵

Wasilla Bible Church, Wasilla, Alaska: October 13, 2022

The church was vandalized the night before its fundraiser for the Alaska Heart Reach Pregnancy Care Center, which was also vandalized the same night. The vandal spray-painted "Not a clinic" on several walls of the pregnancy center, sprayed the cameras, and put a glue-like substance in the key holes.⁵⁶⁶

Zebulon Baptist Church, Zebulon, North Carolina: October 14, 2022

Two teenagers ransacked two churches and a Lions Club, damaging offices, burning carpet, stealing electronics, and breaking windows and doors. The total damages amounted to approximately \$30,000.⁵⁶⁷

Zebulon United Methodist Church, Zebulon, North Carolina: October 14, 2022

Two teenagers ransacked two churches and a Lions Club, damaging offices, burning carpet, stealing electronics, and breaking windows and doors. The total damages amounted to approximately \$30,000.⁵⁶⁸

St. Patrick Catholic Church, Watsonville, California: October 17, 2022*

The church suffered damage from a fire, which surveillance footage showed was an act of arson. The church said that restoration could take months.⁵⁶⁹

Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church, Reva, South Dakota: October 23, 2022

Police said that “almost everything” was stolen from the church, including many items that were 60 to 70 years old. The police issued a public request for the perpetrators to return the church’s items, no questions asked.⁵⁷⁰

St. Stephen Deacon & Martyr Catholic Church, El Paso, Texas: October 23, 2022

A man vandalized the church’s glass doors by carving on them, causing an estimated \$3,000 in damages.⁵⁷¹

Halls Chapel Baptist Church, Burnsville, North Carolina: October 25, 2022

An individual broke into the church and vandalized the property.⁵⁷²

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Colusa, California: October 25, 2022

A vandal ruined the church’s baptismal, threw the tabernacle and Eucharist, carved obscenities on the altar, and broke historic pieces. The damage was estimated at \$10,000. After the suspect was arrested, the district attorney said that comments the man made indicated that the rampage had been motivated by anti-Catholic sentiment.⁵⁷³

St. Patrick’s Cathedral, New York, New York: October 28, 2022*

A man threw a wrench through a window at Cardinal Timothy Dolan’s home inside the cathedral. Police said the perpetrator was a suspect in two other church attacks.⁵⁷⁴

All Saints Episcopal Church, New York, New York: October 29, 2022

A man damaged the church’s wooden front doors and ripped a flag outside of the church. The same man was a suspect in two other church attacks.⁵⁷⁵

Archdiocese of New York, New York, New York: October 29, 2022

A man threw an object at a glass door, damaging it. The same man was suspect in two other church attacks.⁵⁷⁶

St. Pius X Catholic Church, Mountlake Terrace, Washington: October 30, 2022*

Someone spray-painted satanic symbols onto the church's front doors and windows, causing an estimated \$2,500 in damages. The same vandals also spray-painted a vehicle in the church's parking lot. The church had been vandalized once before, around the time of the U.S. Supreme Court's *Dobbs* decision that overturned *Roe v. Wade*. Parishioners believed the church was targeted for being pro-life.⁵⁷⁷

Allen Chapel AME Church, Delano, California: November 2022*

Someone spray-painted racist and derogatory markings on the church building's exterior and damaged items around the property.⁵⁷⁸

Rio Vista Church of the Nazarene, Albuquerque, New Mexico: November 6, 2022

Vandals broke into the church and caused at least \$10,000 in damages, including smashing nine floor-length windows and two glass doors and trashing some classrooms.⁵⁷⁹

Rutledge Falls Baptist Church, Tullahoma, Tennessee: November 6, 2022

Two teenagers were caught on security cameras shooting through the windows of a church bus with BB guns and smashing the rest of the glass with a curtain rod, causing \$2,000 in damages.⁵⁸⁰

Bethlehem United Methodist Church, Dallastown, Pennsylvania: November 8, 2022

A man stopped by the church while walking his dog and vandalized the building with a paint marker. He tried to block the surveillance camera, but it still recorded the vandalism.⁵⁸¹

Mount Zion United Methodist Church, Marion, Virginia: November 19, 2022

Someone broke into the church, overturned furniture and crosses, tore pages out of an approximately 200-year-old Bible, and broke several windows.⁵⁸²

St. Peter's Catholic Church, Kenosha, Wisconsin: November 20, 2022

A granite monument featuring a painting of Jesus was vandalized. An undistinguishable message was spray-painted in neon green. The type of stone makes it difficult to clean.⁵⁸³

Church of the Resurrection, Fairport, New York: November 24, 2022

Vandals spray-painted the church's sign with a swastika and the N-word. Other properties in the community were vandalized as well, including a shopping complex, and a house was set on fire.⁵⁸⁴

St. Andrew Catholic Church, Eagle River, Alaska: November 24, 2022*

Vandals spray-painted phallic symbols on the church's exterior and vehicles in the parking lot. It was the second vandalism incident at the church in 2022.⁵⁸⁵

First Covenant Church, Jamestown, New York: November 25, 2022

A vandal broke into the church, destroyed the television and other equipment, damaged the front altar, and ransacked the sanctuary and fellowship hall. The following Sunday service, the first Sunday of Advent, had to be canceled because of the ongoing investigation.⁵⁸⁶

Scotland AME Zion Church, Potomac, Maryland: November 25 and 27, 2022*

Cameras caught several people breaking in and vandalizing the church. The vandals returned a couple of days later and damaged the back of the building. The church is registered in Maryland as a State Historic Site and is the last remaining historic building of Scotland, a community in Potomac established by former slaves. The church was built by hand in 1924.⁵⁸⁷

Grace United Methodist Church, Billings, Montana: November 26, 2022

The church and other properties in the area were vandalized.⁵⁸⁸

St. Bernard Catholic Church, Weston, West Virginia: November 26, 2022*

Vandals shattered stained glass windows worth \$2,000, and a vehicle tore up the grass around the over 100-year-old church. The building was previously vandalized several times over the summer, causing a total of \$5,000 in damages.⁵⁸⁹

Unidentified church, Nottingham/Perry Hall, Maryland: November 27, 2022

An individual damaged windows, doors, and other property and stole coins, a Bible, and a projector. The suspect was arrested, and the items were found.⁵⁹⁰

Holy Innocents Episcopal Church, Parmelee, South Dakota: December 2022*

The historic church dating to 1890 was vandalized.⁵⁹¹

Salyer Wayside Chapel, Salyer, California: December 2022

A vandal kicked in the doors, broke most of the windows, overturned furniture, strewn items all across the chapel, and stole some items. The damage to the 100-year-old church was estimated at \$20,000.⁵⁹²

Christ Community Church, Omaha, Nebraska: December 3, 2022

Pro-abortion group Jane's Revenge left a threatening note on this and another church's doors. The note against Christ Community specifically threatened the lead pastor. The church's security team prepared to respond in the event of an attack.⁵⁹³

St. John Paul II Newman Center, Omaha, Nebraska: December 3, 2022

Pro-abortion group Jane's Revenge left a threatening note on this and another church's doors.⁵⁹⁴

Christ Anglican Church, Irvington, New Jersey: December 4, 2022

A Sunday morning service was interrupted by a mob of members of the Church of Nigeria trying to "illegally seize the church." The Church of Nigeria's Bishop Augustine Unuigbo came to the front saying, "I have come to take over the church and shut this service down," shoving members as he and the group trespassed. The incident appears to have been premeditated.⁵⁹⁵

Northwood Presbyterian Church, Clearwater, Florida: December 4, 2022

A man vandalized the church by breaking potted plants, knocking over a nativity display, and throwing various toys in the playground area. The damage was estimated at \$400. The vandalism occurred during a string of crimes by the perpetrator; he also publicly sexually assaulted a dog, damaged a mailbox, and attempted to steal a car.⁵⁹⁶

University Heights Baptist Church, Stillwater, Oklahoma: December 5, 2022

Cameras caught four teenagers throwing rocks at the church's windows and running away.⁵⁹⁷

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Downingtown, Pennsylvania: December 10, 2022

An individual vandalized four statues outside of the church. Two of the statues were completely ruined, one was damaged, and one was knocked over without damage.⁵⁹⁸

Holy Assumption of St. Mary Orthodox Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: December 12, 2022

The front and back of the church were vandalized with graffiti. The tagged signature was found on several other vandalized buildings in the area.⁵⁹⁹

St. Michael Catholic Church, Tybee Island, Georgia: December 17, 2022

All of the church's nativity statues were stolen except the shepherds and wise men. The stolen statues were worth approximately \$11,000.⁶⁰⁰

First Baptist Church, Clever, Missouri: December 18, 2022

A church official saw a car with a door ajar behind the church and a man inside who had shattered the glass door to get in. No other damage was reported, and the church was still able to hold services.⁶⁰¹

NewSpring Church, Spartanburg, South Carolina: December 18, 2022

A man threw pieces of cinder blocks at several cars behind the church, damaging some. When police found the man, he said he was setting up cones for people to park in the church's lot. He was charged with destruction, damaging and vandalizing property, disorderly conduct, giving false information to officers, resisting or interfering with police, and simple assault.⁶⁰²

Kelseyville Presbyterian Church, Kelseyville, California: December 20, 2022

Every building on the church's campus was broken into and vandalized, with several doors and windows smashed and interior walls pummeled with a hammer. The church cleaned up the mess the vandals left behind, but the potential repair costs were \$18,000. The church was still able to conduct its Christmas plans.⁶⁰³

Lander Valley Baptist Church, Lander, Wyoming: December 20, 2022

The church was vandalized with graffiti, including the words “Jesus isn’t real” and other indistinguishable and vulgar markings. Other area churches helped the church clean off the graffiti within a day.⁶⁰⁴

Unidentified church, Glassboro, New Jersey: December 24, 2022

On Christmas Eve, a camera caught four people throwing eggs and breaking beer bottles on church property after they unsuccessfully tried to get into the building.⁶⁰⁵

Cathedral of St. Peter, Scranton, Pennsylvania: December 25, 2022

Someone carved “666” in the wooden front doors of the church after the last mass on Christmas Day.⁶⁰⁶

St. Mary Catholic Church, Escondido, California: December 25, 2022*

A man was caught on camera kicking over flower vases around the church, throwing a candle at a crucifix, and breaking a door to get into the church. He also damaged a statue of Mary. The same man vandalized the church on January 9 and 10, 2023.⁶⁰⁷

Harmony Christian Fellowship, Myerstown, Pennsylvania: December 27, 2022

Someone spray-painted an “X” on the church sign in a string of vandalism against churches.⁶⁰⁸

New Life in Christ Church, Bethel, Pennsylvania: December 27, 2022

A vandal carved defamatory markings on the church building and sign. The man also trespassed around the pastor’s house and threw eggs at the pastor’s front door.⁶⁰⁹

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, Grand Island, Nebraska: December 30, 2022

An individual threw a brick through the church’s window.⁶¹⁰

Pathway Community Church, Elmhurst, Illinois: December 30, 2022

A man painted seven swastikas on the church’s windows. Police said the perpetrator used to be a member of the church and targeted it specifically.⁶¹¹

City View Church, San Diego, California: December 31, 2022

The church was vandalized with explicit graffiti and broken windows the day before it was going to host a “Let Us Worship” event. The vandals spray-painted many phrases, such as “Queers Bash Back,” “No Safe Space for Bigots,” “Christofascists not Welcome,” “BLM,” “Anti-fascist resistance will not falter,” “Separate Church & State,” “Trans Rights Are Human Rights,” “Bigots not welcome,” “Transphobes out of SD,” “God Loves LGTBQ,” “F— Christian Nationalists. Church←→State,” in addition to vulgar phrases and threats targeting “Let Us Worship” founder Sean Feucht.⁶¹²

The Pursuit, Snohomish, Washington: December 31, 2022

The church was vandalized with vulgar graffiti but was able to clean it before Sunday service the next day. The church had been the target of vandalism and death threats many times over the past two years, even to the point that they had to hire regular security from an off-duty police officer. The pastor believed it was due to growing “religious antagonism” and secularism, especially in the Pacific Northwest.⁶¹³

2021

St. Patrick’s Cathedral, New York, New York: January 1, 2021*

The church was vandalized with anti-police graffiti.⁶¹⁴

Peace Lutheran Church, Neenah, Wisconsin: January 7, 2021

The church was vandalized with obscenity directed at President Donald Trump.⁶¹⁵

Rosary Cathedral, Toledo, Ohio: January 18, 2021

The front doors were set on fire, and the church was vandalized with messages, including “Jesus is Black.”⁶¹⁶

Oakley Chapel AME Church, Tebbetts, Missouri: January 23, 2021

The historic church building was ransacked by several individuals and sustained damage to windows, doors, and pews.⁶¹⁷

St. Pius X Parish, El Paso, Texas: February 9, 2021

Three angel statues were damaged.⁶¹⁸

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Denver, Colorado: February 16, 2021

The church's altar was ransacked, and items around the altar were destroyed.⁶¹⁹

St. Mary of the Knobs Catholic Church, Floyds Knobs, Indiana: February 23, 2021

A statue of Mary was spray-painted with the misspelled word "Harlat," and the doors of a chapel were spray-painted with the word "Hell."⁶²⁰

Basilica of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Youngstown, Ohio: February 26, 2021

Over \$20,000 worth of property was destroyed by a vandal overnight.⁶²¹

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, Fort Worth, Texas: February 28, 2021

Statues of Mary and St. Thomas were pushed off their pedestals and damaged; later, the statue of St. Thomas the Apostle was stolen and found beheaded with broken arms.⁶²²

St. Monica-St. Augustine Church, Boston, Massachusetts: March 12, 2021

A statue of Mary was knocked down, and an unknown substance was inserted into the locks on the church doors.⁶²³

St. Teresa of Calcutta Church, Dorchester, Massachusetts: March 12, 2021

An unknown putty-like substance was inserted into the locks of the church to prevent entry.⁶²⁴

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Washington, District of Columbia: March 13, 2021

The church was vandalized with what appeared to be satanic graffiti.⁶²⁵

First Baptist Church of Brevard, Brevard, North Carolina: March 14, 2021

Multiple suspected “incendiary devices” were found near the church.⁶²⁶

St. Charles Catholic Church, Spokane, Washington: March 18, 2021

Part of St. Charles Parish School was destroyed in an arson attack.⁶²⁷

Pleasant View Church, Elkland, Missouri: April 3, 2021

The historic church was vandalized on Easter weekend.⁶²⁸

Emmanuel Christian Center, Spring Lake Park, Minnesota: April 11, 2021

Two false calls were made to 911 indicating there was a bomb threat at the church, prompting an evacuation of the building.⁶²⁹

St. Mary’s Cathedral, Fargo, North Dakota: April 16, 2021*

The face of a statue of Jesus was vandalized.⁶³⁰

Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Woodland, California: April 17, 2021

Statues of Mary, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. John were vandalized with spray paint.⁶³¹

Liberty Live Church, Hampton Roads, Virginia: April 18, 2021

Hoax bomb threats were called into multiple locations.⁶³²

St. Elisabeth Catholic Church, Van Nuys, California: April 21, 2021

A man smashed the face of a Virgin of Guadalupe mural with a sledgehammer.⁶³³

St. John Vianney Catholic Church, Rancho Cordova, California: April 25, 2021

A statue of Mary was slashed with black paint.⁶³⁴

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, Waltham, Massachusetts: May 2, 2021

A statue of Jesus was beheaded.⁶³⁵

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Riverside, California: May 6, 2021

Stained glass windows were broken, and a statue of San Juan Diego was vandalized.⁶³⁶

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, Everett, Massachusetts: May 8, 2021

Someone threw rocks through a stained glass window.⁶³⁷

St. Thomas Moore Catholic Church, Narragansett, Rhode Island: May 8, 2021

A statue of Jesus outside the church was damaged by someone using a blunt instrument.⁶³⁸

St. Athanasius Catholic Church, New York, New York: May 14, 2021

Someone knocked over and damaged a crucifix outside the church.⁶³⁹

Our Lady of Mount Carmel-St. Benedicta-St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, New York, New York:

May 15, 2021

Statues of Our Lady of Carmel and the Sacred Heart of Jesus were destroyed by a vandal.⁶⁴⁰

Diocese of Brooklyn, New York, New York: May 17, 2021

Someone beheaded a statue of baby Jesus.⁶⁴¹

Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, Leavenworth, Washington: May 27, 2021

Audio equipment was stolen, and multiple fire extinguishers were deployed by vandals inside the church.⁶⁴²

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, Port Charlotte, Florida: May 31, 2021

Someone vandalized stained glass windows and a statue of the Ten Commandments.⁶⁴³

St. Patrick Catholic Church, Portland, Oregon: June 2021

Vandals lit fires outside the church and defaced the building with graffiti.⁶⁴⁴

Parsons Primitive Methodist Church, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania: June 7, 2021

Someone ripped up a Bible, desecrated an American flag, discharged several fire extinguishers, and left feces throughout the building.⁶⁴⁵

Immaculate Conception Church, New York, New York: June 8, 2021

Graffiti was found on the church's exterior.⁶⁴⁶

St. Veronica's Catholic Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: June 19, 2021

Two individuals set fire to the church doors.⁶⁴⁷

St. Andrew Catholic Church, Portland, Oregon: June 26, 2021

Someone broke a stained glass window, causing over \$2,000 in damages.⁶⁴⁸

Holy Ghost Catholic Church, Denver, Colorado: June 28, 2021

A church was vandalized with "1323" in red paint, referring to a controversy over former Catholic-run schools for indigenous children in Canada.⁶⁴⁹

Holy Rosary Church, Jersey City, New Jersey: July 1, 2021

A statue of Mary with baby Jesus was vandalized and then stolen.⁶⁵⁰

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Portland, Oregon: July 1, 2021

A group of people put red handprints across the front of the church, including the main doors and front steps, possibly in response to a controversy over former Catholic-run schools for indigenous children in Canada.⁶⁵¹

St. James Cathedral, Seattle, Washington: July 2, 2021*

The church doors were vandalized with red paint and the message "We were children." The incident corresponded with a wave of other incidents following the public controversy in Canada over the treatment of indigenous children in former Catholic-run schools.⁶⁵²

New Vision Sanctuary Church of God in Christ, Camden, South Carolina: July 4, 2021

A church wall was covered with vulgar and disturbing graffiti.⁶⁵³

St. Lawrence Basilica, Asheville, North Carolina: July 4, 2021

A statue of Jesus was covered in red paint.⁶⁵⁴

St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Merced, California: July 4, 2021

Handprints with red paint were left across the entrance of the church, likely in connection to a controversy over former Catholic-run schools for indigenous children in Canada.⁶⁵⁵

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Los Angeles, California: July 7, 2021

Someone climbed the roof of the church and set fire to a wooden cross.⁶⁵⁶

Holy Redeemer Church, Portland, Oregon: July 12, 2021*

The church doors were spray painted with an anarchist symbol and an obscene critique of colonialism in connection with the controversy over former Catholic-run schools for indigenous children in Canada.⁶⁵⁷

St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Charleston, West Virginia: July 13, 2021

Someone threw a rock through a church window, causing \$12,000 in damages.⁶⁵⁸

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, New York, New York: July 17, 2021

Someone was caught on camera smashing statues of Mary and St. Thérèse of Lisieux, breaking them into pieces and dragging them 180 feet.⁶⁵⁹

Christ the King Church, South Bend, Indiana: July 25, 2021

A man broke into and vandalized a church.⁶⁶⁰

First Grace United Methodist Church, New Orleans, Louisiana: August 6, 2021

Someone spray-painted over a sign in front of the church that read, “Love thy neighbor, get vaccinated.”⁶⁶¹

St. Benedict Catholic Church, Seattle, Washington: August 6, 2021

The church entryway was vandalized with handprints in black paint and the words “LAND BACK” written on the doors, in reference to the controversy over former Catholic-run schools for indigenous children in Canada.⁶⁶²

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Mary Catholic Church, New York, New York: August 8, 2021

Someone launched “a fiery object” at a statue of Mary.⁶⁶³

The Church of St. Joseph, Spring Valley, New York: August 12, 2021

Someone riding past the church on a bicycle threw a rock at a statue outside the church, damaging it.⁶⁶⁴

Global Vision Bible Church, Mount Juliet, Tennessee: August 15, 2021

The inside and outside of the church building were vandalized, and hateful messages were spray-painted on church property, including “Your lies cost lives” and “FU.” This was likely in response to the pastor’s positions on COVID-19.⁶⁶⁵

Mount Washington Missionary Baptist Church, Kansas City, Missouri: August 16, 2021

A person was shot while serving in the church’s homeless ministry. The shooter reportedly did not like how the volunteer looked at him.⁶⁶⁶

St. Michael’s Catholic Church, New York, New York: August 17, 2021

Someone jumped over a church fence and attacked a newly established statue of St. Bernadette, knocking it over and damaging it.⁶⁶⁷

St. Martha Catholic Church, Miami Shores, Florida: August 29 and September 29, 2021*

Two statues were vandalized. One statue of Jesus had its hand knocked off; another statue in front of the parish office was left headless and handleless.⁶⁶⁸

St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Jay, Maine: September 2, 2021

The church's front entrance was vandalized with white spray paint at the same time that local businesses and other buildings were.⁶⁶⁹

St. Louis Catholic Church, Louisville, Colorado: September 5, 2021*

The church was vandalized with pro-abortion messages, such as "My body, my choice."⁶⁷⁰

Reeves Temple AME Zion Church, Davidson, North Carolina: September 5, 9, and 10, 2021*

The church was broken into and vandalized by teenagers on three separate occasions. The church's historic meeting hall was damaged.⁶⁷¹

First Baptist Church, Montgomery, Alabama: September 29, 2021

An arsonist caused extensive damage by lighting multiple fires in the church building and causing smoke and soot to spread throughout.⁶⁷²

Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Boulder, Colorado: September 29, 2021*

Vandals spray-painted pro-abortion messages and anarchist symbols on the church building, signs, and a truck.⁶⁷³

Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Denver, Colorado: October 10, 2021*

The church was vandalized with anti-Catholic messages spray-painted on the walls. The messages included "Satan lives here," "White supremacists," and "Child rapists, LOL."⁶⁷⁴

St. Edward Catholic Church, Seattle, Washington: October 10, 2021

Vandals broke church windows and spray-painted the words “Stolen children” and “House of murder,” likely in connection with the controversy over former Catholic-run schools for indigenous children in Canada.⁶⁷⁵

St. Peter’s Italian Catholic Church, Los Angeles, California: October 11, 2021

Red paint was splattered across the building, and the words “Land back” were spray painted near the entrance, likely in connection with the controversy over former Catholic-run schools for indigenous children in Canada.⁶⁷⁶

American Martyrs Catholic Church, Manhattan Beach, California: October 16, 2021

The church was vandalized with crude and hateful graffiti.⁶⁷⁷

St. John’s Missionary Baptist Church, Somerville, Alabama: October 18, 2021

Four children were caught ransacking the church, damaging pews, tables, couches, and pianos.⁶⁷⁸

Annunciation Catholic Church, Washington, District of Columbia: October 22, 2021

Someone painted a swastika on a pillar in the church parking lot.⁶⁷⁹

Berachah Church, Middletown, Ohio: October 22, 2021

Four juveniles broke into the church, spray-painted vulgar images, and broke LED lights.⁶⁸⁰

Greater New Life Church, Roseville, Michigan: October 24, 2021

The church was vandalized with swastikas and the word “Die.”⁶⁸¹

St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Tacoma, Washington: October 24, 2021

The parish office was badly damaged by a fire set by a serial arsonist.⁶⁸²

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Fargo, North Dakota: October 31, 2021

A statue of St. Anthony was beheaded.⁶⁸³

College Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Texarkana, Arkansas: November 2, 2021

A suspicious package was found inside the church, and the building was in disarray.⁶⁸⁴

Mission San José, Fremont, California: November 5, 2021

The church was vandalized with spray-painted messages such as “Land back,” “Catholicism is a colonizer religion,” and “Genocide is not a spectacle.”⁶⁸⁵

Nashville Light Mission Pentecostal Church, Nashville, Tennessee: November 7, 2021

A gunman interrupted a church service, waving a gun in the air and pointing it at congregants before the pastor managed to tackle him and call the police.⁶⁸⁶

St. Catharine’s Church, Columbus, Ohio: November 8, 2021

Police investigated a bomb threat at the church.⁶⁸⁷

St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, Chicago, Illinois: November 9, 2021

A 100-year-old church in Chicago’s Ukrainian Village was vandalized.⁶⁸⁸

St. Monica and Luke Church, Gary, Indiana: November 13, 2021

A gunman fired into a crowd just as a funeral was letting out, injuring two men, one of them fatally.⁶⁸⁹

St. Peter’s Catholic Church, DeLand, Florida: November 25-29, 2021

Windows were smashed and statues toppled as part of a set of incidents against three local churches.⁶⁹⁰

DeLand Wesleyan Church, DeLand, Florida: November 25-29, 2021

Windows were smashed and statues toppled as part of a set of incidents against three local churches.⁶⁹¹

Tomoka Christian Church, DeLand, Florida: November 26, 2021

Windows were smashed and statues toppled as part of a set of incidents against three local churches.⁶⁹²

Lititz Church of the Brethren, Lititz, Pennsylvania: December 4, 2021

The church grounds were vandalized with satanic imagery and messages drawn in chalk, including the phrases “Hail Satan” and “Kill God.”⁶⁹³

Calvary Christian Center, Pensacola, Florida: December 4-5, 2021

The church was struck in a small rash of vandalisms in the Pensacola area by the same individual.⁶⁹⁴

Legacy Church, Pensacola, Florida: December 4-5, 2021

The church was struck in a small rash of vandalisms in the Pensacola area by the same individual.⁶⁹⁵

Marcus Pointe Baptist Church, Pensacola, Florida: December 4-5, 2021

The church was vandalized with spray-painted messages, such as “Depart from me wicked” and “I am so holy.” This was part of a small rash of vandalisms in the Pensacola area by the same individual.⁶⁹⁶

Olive Baptist Church, Pensacola, Florida: December 4-5, 2021

Police confronted a vandal suspected of spray-painting graffiti at several local churches, including Olive Baptist Church, where the damage was estimated to be around \$66,700.⁶⁹⁷

St. Andrew Orthodox Church, Pensacola, Florida: December 4-5, 2021

The church was vandalized with the word “Depart” spray-painted on the church sign. This was part of a small rash of vandalisms in the Pensacola area by the same individual.⁶⁹⁸

Victory Bible Baptist Church, Pensacola, Florida: December 4-5, 2021

A vandal spray-painted the words “Depart from me” on the church’s front doors. This was part of a small rash of vandalisms in the Pensacola area by the same individual.⁶⁹⁹

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, District of Columbia:
December 5, 2021*

A vandal cut off the hands, nose, and part of the crown of a statue of Our Lady of Fatima.⁷⁰⁰

Mary Mother of God Church, Hillsborough, New Jersey: December 12, 23, and 29, 2021*

The church experienced three incidences of vandalism and theft, including having mail and Christmas decorations stolen from its property and other decorations destroyed.⁷⁰¹

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Portland, Indiana: December 13, 2021

An arsonist set fire to the church and rectory because he believed Catholics were “at fault” for the COVID-19 pandemic.⁷⁰²

Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church, Oldsmar, Florida: December 18, 2021

A homeless man broke into the church, ransacked the building, and threw church items outside. The damage to the building cost an estimated \$50,000 and prompted the church building to remain closed during Christmas.⁷⁰³

Emmanuel United Methodist Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: December 27, 2021

Bandits ransacked the church building, stealing doors, stained glass windows, and chairs behind the pulpit, causing an estimated \$11,000 in damages.⁷⁰⁴

2020

St. Anthony’s Catholic Church, Casper, Wyoming: May 6, 2020

Someone entered the church through an unlocked door and began knocking things over and kicking property throughout the building, causing an estimated \$25,000 in damages.⁷⁰⁵

Cathedral of the Assumption, Louisville, Kentucky: May 29, 2020

Vandals threw rocks through church windows as a part of riots responding to the death of George Floyd.⁷⁰⁶

St. Jude Chapel, Dallas, Texas: May 29, 2020

Vandals threw rocks through church windows as a part of riots responding to the death of George Floyd.⁷⁰⁷

The Basilica of St. Mary, Minneapolis, Minnesota: May 29, 2020

Riots in Minneapolis following the death of George Floyd, a Black man who was killed by a police officer on May 25, 2020, are believed to be linked to a small fire set in the basilica that caused minor damage.⁷⁰⁸

Our Lady of Mt. Lebanon-St. Peter Cathedral, Los Angeles, California: May 30, 2020

The church was vandalized as a part of riots responding to the death of George Floyd. The phrases “Prosecute killer cops,” “ACAB” (All Cops Are Bastards), “Kill all cops,” and “Make America pay for its crimes against Black lives” were all spray-painted on the exterior of the building.⁷⁰⁹

St. Patrick’s Cathedral, New York, New York: May 30, 2020*

Vandals spray-painted “BLM” and “George Floyd,” along with vulgar messages and anti-police slogans.⁷¹⁰

Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Denver, Colorado: May 30-31, 2020*

The church exterior was damaged over multiple nights, including smashed gates and graffiti with messages such as “God is dead” and “There is no God,” and windows shattered.⁷¹¹

St. Olaf Catholic Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota: Late May 2020

The church sustained minor property damage during riots following the death of George Floyd.⁷¹²

Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel, Flagstaff, Arizona: June 16, 2020

A historic church was vandalized.⁷¹³

St. Ann Catholic Parish, Gary, Indiana: July 2, 2020

A statue of Mary was beheaded.⁷¹⁴

St. Bernadette Catholic Church, Rockford, Illinois: July 5-6, 2020

A crucifix was vandalized.⁷¹⁵

Mission San Gabriel Arcángel, Los Angeles, California: July 11, 2020

An arson attack destroyed the roof and interior of the mission.⁷¹⁶

Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Ocala, Florida: July 11, 2020

While parishioners were getting ready for mass, someone crashed a minivan through the main doors, poured gasoline inside the church, and lit it on fire, causing substantial damage.⁷¹⁷

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Punta Gorda, Florida: July 11, 2020

Someone damaged multiple statues and knocked many over, including a statue of Jesus.⁷¹⁸

St. Peter Parish, Dorchester, Massachusetts: July 11, 2020

Someone set fire to plastic flowers that were in the hands of a statue of Mary, burning the face and upper body of the statue.⁷¹⁹

St. Stephen Catholic Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee: July 11, 2020

A statue of Mary was beheaded.⁷²⁰

Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Miami, Florida: July 14, 2020

A statue of Jesus in the church courtyard was found toppled over and beheaded.⁷²¹

St. Mary's Cathedral, Colorado Springs, Colorado: July 14, 2020

A statue of Mary was spray-painted with red paint, covering a cross on the statue and painting the statue's toenails.⁷²²

St. Joseph's Catholic Church, New Haven, Connecticut: July 15, 2020

Satanic symbols were painted on the church doors.⁷²³

Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, Bloomingburg, New York: July 18-19, 2020

A memorial to unborn children killed by abortion was knocked over.⁷²⁴

Sacred Heart Church, Weymouth, Massachusetts: August 2, 2020

Police believe a Molotov cocktail was thrown at the church overnight in an arson attempt. The only damage was charring on the door.⁷²⁵

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Wounded Knee, South Dakota: August 8, 2020

The church building was destroyed in an arson attack.⁷²⁶

Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine, Denver, Colorado: August 9, 2020

A statue of St. Jude was beheaded, and dozens of candles in the courtyard were destroyed.⁷²⁷

Holy Family Parish, Citrus Heights, California: August 17, 2020

A copy of the Ten Commandments was spray painted with a swastika, and a statue of Mary was beheaded.⁷²⁸

Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Allentown, Pennsylvania: August 24, 2020

Someone appears to have attempted to behead a statue of Mary, causing half of the statue's face to be broken off and part of the veil to be damaged.⁷²⁹

St. James Catholic Church, Kenosha, Wisconsin: August 24, 2020

Vandals smashed several windows at the church property and painted the word "Burn" on the church's front door, an upside-down cross on the exterior of the church building, and the words "God is dead" on construction equipment on the parish school property. The acts occurred during riots in Kenosha over Jacob Blake, a Black man who was shot by police.⁷³⁰

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Tioga, Louisiana: September 9, 2020

An individual caught on camera destroyed as much as he could around the exterior of the church for two hours, throwing statues and planters against the building and destroying windows and doors.⁷³¹

Shrine Church of Our Lady of Solace, New York, New York: September 11, 2020

A vandal toppled a statue of Mary and caused an estimated \$4,000 in damages.⁷³²

St. Therese of the Child Jesus Catholic Church, Midvale, Utah: September 13-14, 2020*

One day apart, a statue of St. Therese was smashed, and a parish property was broken into and vandalized.⁷³³

St. Patrick's Cathedral, El Paso, Texas: September 15, 2020*

A 90-year-old statue of Jesus was beheaded.⁷³⁴

St. Peter Armenian Church, Van Nuys, California: September 17, 2020

A vandal destroyed eight very rare stained glass windows with a baseball bat.⁷³⁵

Incarnation Catholic Church, Town 'n' Country, Florida: September 18, 2020

Someone broke into the church and set three pews on fire, attempting to burn the church down.⁷³⁶

Our Mother of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, El Cajon, California: September 25, 2020

The church was vandalized with spray-painted swastikas. A second church in El Cajon experienced similar vandalism the same day.⁷³⁷

St. Peter's Chaldean Catholic Cathedral, El Cajon, California: September 25, 2020

The church was vandalized with spray-painted swastikas. A second church in El Cajon experienced similar vandalism the same day.⁷³⁸

Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, Fall River, Massachusetts: September 29, 2020*

Someone threw a cinderblock through a church window.⁷³⁹

St. Joseph Cupertino Catholic Church, Fall River, Massachusetts: September 29, 2020

Someone beheaded statues of baby Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.⁷⁴⁰

Mission San Rafael Arcángel, San Rafael, California: October 12, 2020

Activists defaced a statue of St. Junipero Serra with red spray paint before tearing it down on California's Indigenous People's Day.⁷⁴¹

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Magnolia, Arkansas: October 19, 2020

A pro-life display consisting of 150 small white crosses and a banner were knocked down.⁷⁴²

Resurrection Roman Catholic Church, New York, New York: October 20, 2020*

Someone cracked the head and broke a hand off a statue of Mary.⁷⁴³

St. Germaine Catholic Church, Prescott Valley, Arizona: October 20, 2020

Statues of Mary and Jesus were found toppled; gardens surrounding the statues were also damaged.⁷⁴⁴

St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Scranton, Pennsylvania: October 21, 2020

A vandal toppled a statue of Mary.⁷⁴⁵

St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church, Louisville, Kentucky: October 25, 2020

Someone broke into the church and vandalized the altar until he was apprehended.⁷⁴⁶

Mother Cabrini Catholic Church, Shamokin, Pennsylvania: November 8, 2020

Someone battered a statue of St. Teresa and stole Jesus' head from a crucifix held by the statue.⁷⁴⁷

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Chicago, Illinois: November 9, 2020

The exterior of the church was vandalized, and "God is dead" was spray-painted on a wall.⁷⁴⁸

New Testament Baptist Church, Brewster, Washington: November 15, 2020

The church experienced serious fire damage in an apparent arson attack. A nearby Catholic church experienced a fire at the same time.⁷⁴⁹

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Brewster, Washington: November 15, 2020

The church experienced fire damage in an apparent arson attack. A nearby Baptist church experienced a fire at the same time.⁷⁵⁰

St. Bernard Catholic Church, Sunrise, Florida: November 23, 2020

Someone was caught on camera throwing rocks at the church, then pouring accelerant in the garden and lighting it on fire. Statues of Jesus, Mary, and St. Francis were also damaged.⁷⁵¹

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Derry, Pennsylvania: November and December 2020*

The church experienced multiple break-ins and acts of vandalism within the span of a few months, causing thousands of dollars in damages.⁷⁵²

St. Louis Catholic Church, Houma, Louisiana: December 6, 2020

Someone broke into the church and left strange messages inside and outside, including “This is the end!” and “What is real will prosper.”⁷⁵³

Mission San Juan Capistrano, San Juan Capistrano, California: December 11, 2020

The 244-year-old church was tagged with graffiti on the front doors.⁷⁵⁴

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Indianapolis, Indiana: December 25, 2020

The church nativity scene was vandalized.⁷⁵⁵

Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, Fall River, Massachusetts: December 26, 2020*

Someone damaged several of the church’s stained glass windows.⁷⁵⁶

Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Houston, Texas: December 29, 2020

A statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe was struck by at least six bullets.⁷⁵⁷

2019

Filipino-American Mission Church and Iglesia Bautista Nuevo Comienzo, Sanford, North Carolina:

January 6, 2019

The church building was broken into, musical instruments were broken, televisions toppled, supplies scattered, and trash tossed around the sanctuary and other rooms.⁷⁵⁸

St. Paul AME Church, Atlanta, Georgia: January 21, 2019

The church was vandalized with graffiti, including “666” and “Payback.”⁷⁵⁹

St. Patrick Catholic Church, Watsonville, California: February 7, 2019*

A woman caused \$15,000 in damages during a vandalism spree that included pushing over a 15-foot crucifix statue on the altar, toppling another religious statue in a prayer room, and tearing down two large pieces of artwork.⁷⁶⁰

Burton Memorial Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Kentucky: February 8, 2019

The church building was spray-painted with an upside-down cross, a frowning ghost, and the phrase “God’s not real.” The parking lot was spray-painted with a message containing a racial slur and a smiley face.⁷⁶¹

St. John Catholic Church, Howell, Michigan: February 18, 2019

The church’s property was vandalized at two locations with spray-painted graffiti.⁷⁶²

Central Baptist Church, Conway, Arkansas: February 28, 2019

A vandal destroyed \$100,000 of church property, including laptops, cameras, and other electronics. Six months later, the perpetrator was baptized in the church’s baptismal pool by associate pastor Mike Lefler.⁷⁶³

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Montclair, California: March 1, 2019

Statues of Mary and St. Bernadette were beheaded.⁷⁶⁴

St. Mary Catholic Church, Neillsville, Wisconsin: March 1, 2019

Statues, picture frames, holy water stands, crosses, and candles were broken, and the baptismal pool was damaged. Prior to the attack, the alleged vandal had joined a cult.⁷⁶⁵

Greater Iowa City Church of the Nazarene, Iowa City, Iowa: March 3, 2019

The church was defaced with racist graffiti, including swastikas.⁷⁶⁶

St. Mary Baptist Church, Port Barre, Louisiana: March 26, 2019

In November 2020, Holden Matthews was sentenced to 25 years in prison for setting fire to three historic black churches, including St. Mary Baptist in March 2019.⁷⁶⁷

Wilborne Baptist Church, Waverly, Virginia: March 29, 2019

The church was vandalized with a black, spray-painted image on an outer wall. The skull-like image left church leaders and other observers puzzled as to its meaning.⁷⁶⁸

St. Margaret Mary Church, Chino, California: March 31, 2019

A statue of St. Margaret Mary was beheaded.⁷⁶⁹

Church in the City-Beth Abraham, Denver, Colorado: April 2, 2019

A Messianic Jewish (Christian) church was vandalized with graffiti, including a swastika.⁷⁷⁰

Greater Union Baptist Church, Opelousas, Louisiana: April 2, 2019

This was the second historically Black church set on fire by Holden Matthews (see March 26, 2019, above).⁷⁷¹

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Opelousas, Louisiana: April 4, 2019

This was the third historically black church set on fire by Holden Matthews (see March 26, 2019, above).⁷⁷²

Midway Presbyterian Church, Anderson, South Carolina: April 14, 2019

Vandals broke windows and spray-painted two messages on the church's exterior walls: "SUBMIT TO GOD THRU ISLAM" and "MUHAMMED IS HIS PROPHET."⁷⁷³

Green Acres Baptist Church, Tyler, Texas: April 19, 2019

A woman spray-painted what appeared to be the word "Creep" on the building.⁷⁷⁴

St. Anthony Church, Maui, Hawaii: April 21, 2019

The church was vandalized on Easter Sunday, the second time in a month. Statuary, pictures, and relics of saints were destroyed, and the walls were written on with lipstick.⁷⁷⁵

St. John's Cathedral, Fresno, California: April 24, 2019

A man threatened the bishop and priests, then proceeded to vandalize the statuary and break windows. He returned an hour later with a club, hit the church walls, and broke more glass and objects outside. The estimated cost of all the damages was over \$25,000.⁷⁷⁶

Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, Phoenix, Arizona: May 1, 2019

The church was broken into, burglarized, and vandalized.⁷⁷⁷

St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Phoenix, Arizona: May 1, 2019

The church was gutted by a fire.⁷⁷⁸

St. Matthew Catholic Church, El Paso, Texas: May 7, 2019

An attempt was made to throw a Molotov cocktail through the church's windows. No windows were broken, and the device bounced on the sidewalk.⁷⁷⁹

St. Patrick's Cathedral, El Paso, Texas: May 13, 2019*

An attempt was made to throw a Molotov cocktail through the church's windows. No windows were broken, and the device bounced on the sidewalk.⁷⁸⁰

All Saints Catholic Church, Babcock, Wisconsin: May 14, 2019

Religious hate slogans and swastikas were spray-painted on the church building.⁷⁸¹

Babcock Community Church, Babcock, Wisconsin: May 14, 2019

The church building was vandalized with religious hate slogans and swastikas.⁷⁸²

Notre Dame de Lourdes Catholic Church, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania: May 19, 2019

The message “You do not have the right to decide how others live” was spray-painted across the church entrance. Another message, “#Prochoice,” was painted on the bricks at the side of the church.⁷⁸³

Faith United Church of Christ and Rehoboth Worship Center, Hammond, Indiana: May 29, 2019

Vandals inflicted thousands of dollars in damages to the organ, the altar, the office, and the bathrooms.⁷⁸⁴

Hepsibah Baptist Church, Oconee County, South Carolina: June 2, 2019

The church was vandalized with satanic graffiti and related emblems.⁷⁸⁵

The Word Lutheran Church, Stevens Point, Wisconsin: June 2, 2019

Vandals gained access to the church roof and spray-painted a depiction of male genitalia, an anarchy symbol, and the letters “G” and “D” on the building’s air conditioning unit.⁷⁸⁶

Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More, Tallahassee, Florida: June 10, 2019

The cathedra and presiders’ chairs were set on fire, the sanctuary walls were charred, and there was smoke damage.⁷⁸⁷

Friendship United Methodist, Seneca, South Carolina: June 11, 2019

Over 20 headstones in the church graveyard were displaced.⁷⁸⁸

Flowing Wells Assembly of God, Tucson, Arizona: June 13, 2019

The church was vandalized with satanic messages, profanity, and related symbols.⁷⁸⁹

San Judas Tadeo Catholic Church, El Paso, Texas: June 15, 2019

A Molotov-cocktail-like device was used to start a fire inside the church.⁷⁹⁰

Greater Bethlehem Temple Church, Jackson, Mississippi: June 17, 2019

Vandals spray-painted graffiti on the church’s exterior and broke a window.⁷⁹¹

Legacy International Worship Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: June 19, 2019

A Syrian refugee was arrested for allegedly planning to bomb the church. He pleaded guilty in September 2019.⁷⁹²

New Life Assembly Church, Lima, Ohio: June 20, 2019

The church's exterior was spray-painted with the messages "God is a woman, and she is gay," "Love is love," "Pride," "God is dead," "All people are equal," and "Be kind."⁷⁹³

Second Baptist Church, Palermo, Maine: June 25, 2019*

A church sign with movable lettering was changed to read, "Jesus Made Adam & Steve, Not Adam & Eve." It previously said, "Jesus Made Adam & Eve, Not Adam & Steve." A pro-life poster that was located below the sign was stolen.⁷⁹⁴

First Lutheran Church, Crowley, Louisiana: July 2019*

Vandals threw a padlock through a stained glass window in the first of five incidents in Crowley in 2019.⁷⁹⁵

St. Augustine Catholic Church, Lamont, California: July 1, 2019

Video cameras captured a man breaking into a church office, using a microwave to warm up and eat homemade tamales (for which the church's fundraisers are locally famous), relaxing for a few hours, then ransacking the office and making off with televisions and phones.⁷⁹⁶

Johnson Chapel AME Church, Santa Ana, California: July 2, 2019

A man confessed to vandalizing the church's exterior with a large pipe.⁷⁹⁷

Kawaiahao Church, Honolulu, Hawaii: July 3, 2019

Vandals damaged more than two dozen headstones in the church cemetery.⁷⁹⁸

St. James Cathedral, Seattle, Washington: July 8, 2019*

A mentally ill man attacked a statue with a rock, breaking the arm of the child Jesus and damaging the face of Mary.⁷⁹⁹

Antelope Springs Methodist Episcopal Church, Snyder, Colorado: July 14, 2019

The 104-year-old church, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, was set on fire, resulting in extensive damage to the interior.⁸⁰⁰

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Brookfield, Connecticut: July 14, 2019

Graffiti reading “Abolish ICE” was discovered on an exterior wall of the church.⁸⁰¹

Bible Baptist Church, Pickens, South Carolina: July 20, 2019

A wall was graffitied with a call to release a local man accused of committing a pipe bombing. Two other churches nearby were also vandalized.⁸⁰²

Pickens View Wesleyan Church, Pickens, South Carolina: July 20, 2019

The tires of a church van were slashed. Two other churches nearby were also vandalized.⁸⁰³

Stoney Ridge Missionary Baptist Church, Eldersburg, Maryland: July 27, 2019

A vandal spray-painted obscenities on the church’s front sign and exterior. The graffiti included the word “Racist,” swastikas, devil worship symbols, and curse words.⁸⁰⁴

Living Hope Covenant Church, Colorado Springs, Colorado: August 3, 2019

The church, which has been repeatedly vandalized, was spray-painted with satanic graffiti.⁸⁰⁵

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Bryson City, North Carolina: August 7, 2019

A vandal sledgehammered a crucifix outside the church building and two inside. During the incident, a group of female parishioners was in the church basement for a birthday party.⁸⁰⁶

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan: August 7, 2019

Vandals spray-painted satanic imagery on the church's doors along with "666."⁸⁰⁷

Maranatha Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Montgomery, Alabama: August 25, 2019

The church's sound system was thrown on the sanctuary floor, tapes and CDs were scattered on the pews, the pulpit and pews were overturned, drawers were open, and items were strewn about.⁸⁰⁸

Cathedral Basilica of St. Joseph, San Jose, California: September 1, 2019

Satanic and antisemitic graffiti was spray-painted on the outside walls.⁸⁰⁹

St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Lynn, Massachusetts: September 6, 2019

Two icons were vandalized with anti-Christian symbolism, including an upside-down cross, the number "666," and an anarchy symbol.⁸¹⁰

South Bay Pentecostal Church, Chula Vista, California: September 7, 2019

Vandals spray-painted graffiti on the church walls, including messages promoting "Lucifer," "Satan," and "King of Hell." The church has been openly critical of the Chula Vista Public Library for sanctioning an event at which drag queens read to children.⁸¹¹

St. Gerard Majella Catholic Church, New York, New York: September 8 and 15, 2019*

A vandal damaged the rosary stations, parish signs, and sprinkler system. In a previous incident a week earlier, the same person was caught on video tearing down signs and damaging plants in the church parking lot.⁸¹²

Newhall Church of the Nazarene, Los Angeles, California: September 12, 2019

Deputies arrested a nearly naked man after he allegedly vandalized the church and ran onto the freeway.⁸¹³

St. Michael Church, Jersey City, New Jersey: September 13, 2019

The face of a statue of Mary was covered with feces and a cigarette.⁸¹⁴

Beth Eden Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas: September 16, 2019

One of at least seven churches in the area vandalized with anti-Christian messages in red spray paint.⁸¹⁵

Ideal Family Church, Dallas, Texas: September 16, 2019

One of at least seven churches in the area vandalized with anti-Christian messages in red spray paint.⁸¹⁶

Pearly Gates Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas: September 16, 2019

One of at least seven churches in the area vandalized with anti-Christian messages in red spray paint.⁸¹⁷

Singing Hills Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas: September 16, 2019

One of at least seven churches in the area vandalized with anti-Christian messages in red spray paint.⁸¹⁸

St. Luke Presbyterian Church, Dallas, Texas: September 16, 2019

One of at least seven churches in the area vandalized with anti-Christian messages in red spray paint.⁸¹⁹

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Dallas, Texas: September 16, 2019

One of at least seven churches in the area vandalized with anti-Christian messages in red spray paint.⁸²⁰

St. Phillips Missionary Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas: September 16, 2019

One of at least seven churches in the area vandalized with anti-Christian messages in red spray paint.⁸²¹

Mount Lebanon Baptist Church, Greer, South Carolina: September 17, 2019

A church cemetery was vandalized in what was described as the latest in “a growing list of more than a dozen Upstate churches damaged in property crimes over the past year.”⁸²²

Mammoth Cave Baptist Church, Mammoth Cave, Kentucky: September 21, 2019

The historic structure was spray-painted with letters and drawings.⁸²³

Venture Church, Hattiesburg, Mississippi: September 24, 2019

Vandals covered multiple windows, walls, and doors with red spray paint, including the bizarre phrases “God forbids materials in heaven” and “Why so serious?”⁸²⁴

Chapel of the Holy Cross, Sedona, Arizona: September 25, 2019

A vandal swung a crowbar at the altar and spray-painted the word “Evil” outside on the sidewalk. A tweet about the incident observed that the vandal was “screaming about the Catholic Church supporting human trafficking as he left.”⁸²⁵

St. Vincent de Paul Church, Bayonne, New Jersey: September 25, 2019

A man uprooted a crucifix outside the church, threw it on the ground, and smashed it against a wall, breaking it into pieces. This was at least the third church in the county to be vandalized that month.⁸²⁶

One Church, Memphis, Tennessee: September 29, 2019

The church’s new sound equipment and the previous week’s tithes and offering were stolen. The sanctuary was vandalized, with paint spattered on the walls and carpet and chairs slashed. Community members helped clean up the wreckage, lifting the spirits of the congregation.⁸²⁷

St. Alban’s Episcopal Church, Syracuse, New York: October 1, 2019

A “666” and a pentagram were spray-painted on a wall, a side door, and the wheelchair access ramp.⁸²⁸

St. Theresa Catholic Church, Crowley, Louisiana: October 11, 2019

A glass door at a historically Black church was found shattered by a brick or piece of concrete.⁸²⁹

First Church of the Nazarene, Crowley, Louisiana: October 16, 2019

A glass door was broken by a brick or piece of concrete.⁸³⁰

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, Crowley, Louisiana: October 16, 2019

A brick was thrown into the historically black church’s glass door.⁸³¹

New Jerusalem Baptist Church, Wichita, Kansas: October 16, 2019

The church's exterior was vandalized with racist graffiti, which included the name of a street gang, a Nazi symbol, and obscene drawings.⁸³²

Revival Temple Church of God in Christ, Las Vegas, Nevada: October 18, 2019

An African American church was vandalized with a spray-painted swastika.⁸³³

Jerusalem Baptist Church, Crowley, Louisiana: October 21, 2019

A brick was thrown into the historically Black church's glass door, making it the fifth church to have been targeted in Crowley in four months.⁸³⁴

Saints Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church, Corpus Christi, Texas: October 29, 2019

Someone threw glass and candle wax at an outdoor statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe.⁸³⁵

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, New York, New York: November 3, 2019

A former New York University sociology professor was arrested and charged with hate crimes after he allegedly uprooted plants outside the Brooklyn church, threw them at the main church door, and damaged a \$5,000 statue of a saint. Monsignor Jamie Gigantiello believed the perpetrator was drunk, but he added that the disturbing exhibition of "violence, anger, and hatred" was "definitely an attack on the Catholic Church."⁸³⁶

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Augusta, Augusta, Georgia: November 16, 2019

The building was painted with a Star of David (representing the Jewish faith) in a circle with a diagonal line crossing through it and the quote "God will not be mocked."⁸³⁷

First Lutheran Church, Crowley, Louisiana: November 22, 2019*

Vandals struck a church in Crowley for the sixth time in five months. This attack was the second for First Lutheran Church. The glass windows at the church's education center were shattered with a brick or piece of concrete.⁸³⁸

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, El Paso, Texas: December 5, 2019

A vandal destroyed nearly a half-dozen windows and doors and started a small fire in one of the parish offices. This was the fourth El Paso Catholic church to be vandalized in 2019.⁸³⁹

2018

Church of the Angels, Pasadena, California: January 13, 2018

Vandals sprayed graffiti on the inside of the 129-year-old church before setting a fire and causing substantial damage to the church's interior.⁸⁴⁰

Salt and Light Presbyterian Church, Buford, Georgia: January 17, 2018

Someone stole a church van and set it on fire in another location.⁸⁴¹

Resurrection Catholic Church, Los Angeles, California: January 25, 2018

The church suffered an arson attack and vandalism.⁸⁴²

Bessie Road Baptist Church, Piedmont, South Carolina: January 28, 2018

Two large wooden crosses were cut down outside the church.⁸⁴³

Joy Fellowship Church, Piedmont, South Carolina: January 28, 2018

The church was spray-painted with the words “Venceremos por el Diablo,” or “We will overcome for the devil.”⁸⁴⁴

Mount Zion Baptist Church, Mitchell County, Georgia: January 30, 2018

An arson attack heavily damaged the interior of the church.⁸⁴⁵

Living Word Lutheran Church, Orland Park, Illinois: Late January 2018

The church endured multiple acts of vandalism, including broken windows, attempted arson, and graffiti.⁸⁴⁶

St. Augustine Catholic Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma: February 18, 2018

Someone shattered a window and broke a statue of Mary.⁸⁴⁷

Life Spring Community Church, Simpsonville, South Carolina: February 25, 2018

Vandals spray-painted “To hell with Billy Graham. We venerate satan. We love him” on an exterior wall. Another church in the area experienced a similar incident at the same time.⁸⁴⁸

Pentecostal Church of God, Piedmont, South Carolina: February 25, 2018

Vandals spray-painted “Down with Billy Graham, the devil lives,” along with satanic symbols outside the church. Another church in the area experienced a similar incident at the same time.⁸⁴⁹

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Idaho Falls, Idaho: March 3, 2018

The church was vandalized, and \$10,000 in property was stolen.⁸⁵⁰

Upward Baptist Church, Flat Rock, North Carolina: March 4, 2018

The church was vandalized with vulgar messages directed toward Jesus and Rev. Billy Graham.⁸⁵¹

Seed Planters Church McDonough, McDonough, Georgia: March 19, 2018

Vandals spray-painted satanic and other offensive imagery around the building.⁸⁵²

Our Lady of the Lake Church, Verona, New Jersey: March 25, 2018*

Statues of Jesus, St. John, and Mary were broken on Palm Sunday.⁸⁵³

New Vision Ministries Church, Lincolnton, North Carolina: March 24-25, 2018

A church sign, the parking lot, and a dumpster were spray-painted with offensive symbols, including “666” and swastikas.⁸⁵⁴

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, San Diego, California: April 2, 2018

Someone threw a wooden kneeler through a window of the church and proceeded to vandalize the building.⁸⁵⁵

Lake Bowen Baptist Church, Inman, South Carolina: April 5, 2018

Teenagers broke into the church and strewed chocolate sauce, caramel, jelly, sprinkles, soap, and snow cone syrup across the church floor and walls and stuck knives in the wall.⁸⁵⁶

Bethel Church of Nazarene, Spokane, Washington: April 6, 2018

Multiple people broke into the church and ate food from the church kitchen, stole a guitar, and ripped a drinking fountain and urinal off of the walls, causing \$2,000 in damages.⁸⁵⁷

Milford Heights Church of Christ, Goshen Township, Ohio: April 8, 2018

A juvenile broke into the church, took grape juice from the fridge, and splattered it across the walls.⁸⁵⁸

Bethel AME Church, Clinton, Iowa: April 27, 2018

The church was defaced with hateful and racist symbols and messages in permanent marker.⁸⁵⁹

St. Kierans Church, Heckscherville, Pennsylvania: May 2018

The church was broken into, church pews, pipes, and electrical wiring were cut out of their places, and a side window was shattered.⁸⁶⁰

St. Brigid's Church, Amherst, Massachusetts: May 2, 2018

Statues were destroyed, a baptismal font was broken, and a window was smashed with a cross.⁸⁶¹

Noonday Baptist Church, Northeast Cobb, Georgia: May 8, 2018

The church was vandalized in a series of recent church vandalisms in the area.⁸⁶²

St. John Kanty Church, Buffalo, New York: May 15, 2018

Someone broke a statue outside the church with a baseball bat and left a note that read, "This building will be destroyed" and "Catholics are a man-made religion."⁸⁶³

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Short North, Ohio: May 26, 2018

Someone ransacked the cathedral, destroying a valuable stained glass window and seriously damaging various items, causing \$100,000 worth of damage.⁸⁶⁴

Mission San Juan, San Antonio, Texas: June 21, 2018

Vandals sprayed water on the walls of the mission, let it sit, and then scrapped off the first layer of plaster, causing extensive damage to the building.⁸⁶⁵

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church, Nesquehoning, Pennsylvania: July 2018

The church experienced multiple incidences of vandalism in addition to drug paraphernalia and a knife being left around the church.⁸⁶⁶

Bolling Methodist Church, Butler County, Alabama: July 3, 2018

Someone attempted to start three fires in a historic church. A satanic star was also carved in one of the church pews.⁸⁶⁷

Welcome Baptist Church, Union, South Carolina: July 6, 2018

An upside-down cross was burned into a column, slashes were made in the siding, and the words “Hail Satan” were carved into a flood board.⁸⁶⁸

St. Charles Borromeo Church, North Hollywood, California: July 25, 2018

Someone broke into the church and attempted to start three fires, then ransacked the building.⁸⁶⁹

Union Baptist Missionary Church, Suffolk, Virginia: July 30, 2018

Someone broke into the church with the intention of destroying church property.⁸⁷⁰

Mercy Tabernacle Church, Benton, Tennessee: August 15, 2018

The church building was destroyed in an arson attack.⁸⁷¹

St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Church, Merrillville, Indiana: August 20, 2018

A priest was brutally assaulted and left unconscious by his attacker, who said he was acting in response to a sexual abuse scandal in the Catholic Church.⁸⁷²

Los Molinos United Methodist Church, Los Molinos, California: August 25, 2018

Someone attempted to commit arson by igniting a propane tank behind the church.⁸⁷³

St. Mary's Church, Milford, Massachusetts: August 31, 2018

Four people stole artifacts and ransacked the church building.⁸⁷⁴

Walnut Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, Tennessee: September 18, 2018

Teenagers broke into the church and wrote racist slogans inside of Bibles and on the door, including "KKK."⁸⁷⁵

Allendale United Methodist Church, St. Petersburg, Florida: September 23, 2018

The church sign was vandalized.⁸⁷⁶

Old Mission Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, California: October 10, 2018

A historic building was vandalized with the words "Rape" and "Genecide" (misspelled by the vandals), and the front doors were smeared in red paint.⁸⁷⁷

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Seattle, Washington: October 18, 2018

Someone threw Molotov cocktails at the church during an evening service. Two hundred people were in attendance, and one Molotov cocktail was thrown directly at a security guard, but he and the congregants were unharmed.⁸⁷⁸

First Baptist Church, Jeffersontown, Kentucky: October 24, 2018

A would-be shooter made an unsuccessful attempt to enter the church before heading to a neighboring grocery store and killing two people.⁸⁷⁹

Joppa Church, Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky: October 28 and November 1, 2018*

In separate instances, vandals left graffiti on the floor of the historic church, and multiple windows were found broken.⁸⁸⁰

Alfred Street Baptist Church, Alexandria, Virginia: November 3, 2018

Someone called in a false bomb threat during a church service, which resulted in the congregation having to shelter in place while the authorities investigated the situation.⁸⁸¹

Church of God-Holy, Antioch, California: November 26, 2018

Offensive words and symbols were spray-painted on the exterior of the church building.⁸⁸²

Our Lady of Consolation Roman Catholic Church, New York, New York: December 2, 2018

A vandal urinated on and then destroyed two statues outside the church.⁸⁸³

Church For All Nations, Vienna, Virginia: December 5, 2018

A vandal broke into a Korean American church, destroyed a glass altar, and caused approximately \$1,000 in damages.⁸⁸⁴

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Raleigh, North Carolina: December 21, 2018

Vandals ransacked a church building ahead of Christmas. Tables were overturned, instruments were damaged, and broken glass was strewn across the floor.⁸⁸⁵

St. Joseph's Polish Catholic Church, Globeville, Colorado: December 28, 2018

Vandals smashed a church nativity scene, destroying statues of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus.⁸⁸⁶

First Baptist Church, Vigor, Texas: December 30, 2018

An armed man was headed to a Texas church to “fulfill a prophecy.” He entered a restaurant early in the morning and asked employees for a ride to a specific church, which the employees refused. After noticing the gun in his hand as the man walked away, an employee called the police, and he was promptly detained before the situation escalated.⁸⁸⁷

St. Patrick-St. Anthony Catholic Church, Grand Haven, Michigan: December 30, 2018

Two masses were canceled after a man put fireworks inside the church and attacked someone who was helping prepare for mass.⁸⁸⁸

Arielle Del Turco, M.A., is Director of the Center for Religious Liberty at Family Research Council.

A special thank you to Laura Grossberndt, Abigail Ferrara, Chantel Hoyt, and Chris Gacek for their valuable contributions to this report.

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⁸⁸⁸ “Sunday Mass canceled after explosives are found in church,” *Detroit Free Press*, December 30, 2018, last updated December 31, 2018, <https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2018/12/30/sunday-mass-firecrackers-church/2444861002/>.