

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910480582003321
Titolo	American Parishes : Remaking Local Catholicism // Gary J. Adler, Tricia C. Bruce, Brian Starks
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, NY : , : Fordham University Press, , [2019] ©2019
ISBN	0-8232-8437-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (279 pages)
Collana	Catholic Practice in North America
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Disciplina	282.73
Soggetti	Catholics - United States Catholic Church - United States Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Introduction. What is a parish? why look at catholic parishes? -- 1. A brief history of the sociology of parishes in the united states -- 2. Studying parishes lessons and new directions from the study of congregations -- 3. The shifting landscape of us catholic parishes, 1998–2012 -- 4. Stable transformation catholic parishioners in the united states -- 5. Power in the parish -- 6. Liturgy as identity work in predominantly African American parishes -- 7. A house divided -- 8. Parishes as homes and hubs -- 9. Preparing to say “i do” -- 10. A sociologist looks at his own parish a conversation with

john a. Coleman, SJ -- Conclusion. Parishes as the embedded middle of American Catholicism -- Acknowledgments -- Contributors -- Index

Sommario/riassunto

Parishes are the missing middle in studies of American Catholicism. Between individual Catholics and a global institution, the thousands of local parishes are where Catholicism gets remade. American Parishes showcases what social forces shape parishes, what parishes do, how they do it, and what this says about the future of Catholicism in the United States. Expounding an embedded field approach, this book displays the numerous forces currently reshaping American parishes. It draws from sociology of religion, culture, organizations, and race to illuminate basic parish processes, like leadership and education, and ongoing parish struggles like conflict and multiculturalism. American Parishes brings together contemporary data, methods, and questions to establish a sociological re-engagement with Catholic parishes and a Catholic re-engagement with sociological analysis. Contributions by leading social scientists highlight how community, geography, and authority intersect within parishes. It illuminates and analyzes how growing racial diversity, an aging religious population, and neighborhood change affect the inner workings of parishes.

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