



# GREAT ENDEAVORS MINED & SHARED

*from an International Adult Faith Formation Best Practices Study*

#138 – March 15, 2021

## A Best Practice: Resources for Our Time (Part XV)

Since April, in addition to some of our themed issues and/or issues of specific best practices, there have been several **GEMS** issues which looked at some resources for this time. Many have been related to these times of COVID.

Now these issues (which come to you once a month – in the middle of the month) will continue to look at resources for these days of living in and through the pandemic as well as other resources for these times (which can be used in adult faith formation), such as:

- The up-coming liturgical seasons/calendar year
- Catholic social teaching
- Formation for an anti-racist society
- Caring for our common home

## Some Practices, Resources and Reflections for Pastoral Leaders/Faith Formation Leaders

- [Want To Increase Your Productivity?](#)
- [Reshaping the Table](#)
- [Satisfied Churches Don't Change](#)
  
- [4 Big Signs it's not Going to Turn Around](#)
- [Vaccinations Through an Equity Lens: What Can Churches Do?](#)
- [COVID-19: The 15% Change That's Coming](#)
  
- [Strong Communities Have Fewer COVID-19 Cases](#)
- [Planning Faith Formation in a Post-Pandemic World](#)
- [Top 10 Insights on Burnout](#)
  
- [The Voice of a Secular Prophet](#)
- [Pandemic Ministry Burnout](#)
- [Vatican to bishops: Be 'prudent' about Easter services as pandemic continues](#)

- [What Will the World Look Like After Coronavirus?](#)
- [Video Blessings: An Idea for COVID & Beyond](#)
- [What Coronavirus Has Taught Us](#)
- [After Covid, Mass will never be the same. Maybe that's a good thing](#)

The future is not a result of choices among alternative paths offered by the present, but a place this is created – created first in the mind and will, created next in activity.

The future is not some place we are going to,  
but one we are creating.

The paths are not to be found, but made,  
changes both the maker and the destination.

~ John Schaar

## Resources for upcoming feasts/liturgical year/the calendar year

- [Holy Week Family Worship](#)
- [Interactive Holy Week for Children](#)
- [Maundy Thursday Agape Meal Activity](#)
  
- [Finding The Way of The Cross in Nature](#)
- [Pray the Stations of the Cross with St. Joseph](#)
- [Holy Week Passports](#)
  
- [A Holy Week Survival Care Package](#)
- [Holy Week Through the Eyes of Youth](#)
- [What does this day mean? Handout for Palm Sunday at Home](#)
  
- [Palms, Supper, Tomb: A Children's Service for Holy Week](#)

# GREAT ENDEAVORS MINED & SHARED

- [Maundy Thursday at Home: Stripping the Table](#)
- [Three Teaching Points for Holy Week](#)
- [Holy Week Resources](#)
  
- [Pop-Up Catechesis: Holy Week](#)
- [Easter Scene Wooden Decoration](#)
- [A Parish Easter Event for Families and Friends](#)
  
- [A Journey Into God's Resurrection-created World](#)
- [Backyard Scavenger Hunt for Earth Day](#)
- [3 Prayers for Earth Day](#)
  
- [Holy Hikes with the Psalms](#) (Earth Day)
- [Celebrate Creation with Wondering Questions](#) (Earth Day)
- [Summer Event Kit](#)

## Resources for the Year of St. Joseph

- [Joseph, God's Choice](#)
- [Pray the Stations of the Cross with St. Joseph](#)
- [St. Joseph and a Place for Introverts in the Church](#)
  
- [Saint Joseph, A Tender and Loving Father](#)
- [St. Joseph Activities for Children](#)
- [St. Joseph ~ Picture of the Carpenter on Wood ~ Craft](#)
  
- [Litany of St. Joseph](#)
- [A Year of St. Joseph](#)
- [St. Joseph and a Place for Introverts in the Church](#)
  
- [The Year of St. Joseph](#)
- ["Year of St. Joseph" — Free Activities for Children](#)
- [A Digital Conference Celebrating St. Joseph](#) (March 19)
  
- [Year of Saint Joseph Digital Editions](#) (Brother Mickey McGrath)
- [Joseph, Dreamer or Believer: Is There a Difference?](#)

Each time we put on a mask,  
May it be an invitation  
to remembrance,  
A communal call to pause  
and grieve  
All those we have lost,  
A number so high  
it defies imagination.

Apart though we are  
and must be,  
May we recognize  
that we are linked,  
All of us held together by these  
bits of fabric and elastic,  
Stitched into a beautiful quilt  
of shared humanity,  
Wrapping all the way  
around the globe.

To put on a mask is  
to light a candle,  
And may our light  
be bright indeed,  
Bright enough to comfort us  
in our mourning,  
Bright enough to dare us to hope,  
That our love will lead us  
to a better future.  
Amen.

~ Cameron Bellm

## Resources for Formation Leaders (children and youth programming)

- [A Prayer for Catechists: Using Technology](#)
- [Innovations in Catechesis \(webinar\)](#)

# GREAT ENDEAVORS MINED & SHARED

- [Examen for Teens with Anxiety](#)
- [Music For Enriching Catechesis with Children and Families](#)
- [Family Together](#)

## Resources for Faith Formation Leaders (adult faith formation)

- [Most Small Groups Can be ... Mediocre \(10 Lessons from a Church whose Groups are Exploding\)](#) These ideas/experiences are not from a Catholic church, but might there be things we can learn/adapt/incorporate?
- [Resources for Depression, Fear, and Anxiety](#)
- [Resources for Caregivers](#)
- [Catholic Grief Series](#)
- [More Americans Than People in Other Advanced Economies Say COVID-19 Has Strengthened Religious Faith](#)
- [Seven ways RCIA teams can make Holy Saturday holier](#)
- [Is the pandemic making RCIA too convenient?](#)
- [10 Ways to Involve Parishioners in the RCIA Process](#)
- [RCIA - How do you keep Holy Saturday holy?](#)

In a time of destruction, create something:  
a poem, a parade,  
a community, a school,  
a vow, a moral principle;  
one peaceful moment.

~ Maxine Hong Kingston

## Resources for and about Prayer and Reflection

- [Prayers During the Coronavirus Pandemic](#)
- [Prayer for a Pandemic](#)
- [Prayer for a Time of Anxiety](#)
- [A Prayer Marking One Year of Pandemic Life](#)
- [A Prayer for Peace during Covid-19](#)
- ["Words of Comfort, Prayers for the People"](#)
- [Prayer for World Peace](#)
- ["This Is Our Dream": A Crowdsourced Poem To Inspire Hope](#)
- [Breathe In: One-Minute Retreats for Calm and Clarity](#)
- [Quiet Places, Sacred Spaces](#)
- [Revisit your Sacred Space](#)

## Music

- [Protect Us, Lord](#)
- [How Can I Keep from Singing](#)
- [Return to God](#)
- [Offertory](#)
- [Offertory](#)
- [Speak, O Lord](#)
- [Power of Your Love](#)
- [The Cloud's Veil](#)
- [If You Find Me By the Ocean](#)
- [Holy Spirit Playlist](#)
- [Holy Darkness](#)
- [We are Called](#)

# GREAT ENDEAVORS MINED & SHARED

## Catholic Social Teaching

- [A Better Middle](#)
- [Seeking Justice Inch by Inch: Practical Ways to Honor the Image of God in Everyone](#)
- [Social Justice in the Bible](#)
- [Voices of women and people of color must be part of Catholic social teaching discussion](#)
- [‘Fratelli Tutti’: Our Great Challenge](#)
- [Free Teaching Resources: Promoting an Integral Vision of Human Life and Dignity Across Disciplines](#)
- [Catholic social teaching goes to Washington](#)

## Work toward Anti-Racism

- [Contemplative Activism](#)
- [All life is sacred. Black lives more than matter.](#)
- [Gloria Purvis Speaks on the Sin of Racism](#)
- [Black Lives and the Preferential Option for the Poor](#)
- [Racial Reconciliation Resource List](#)
- [Five Ways to Reduce Racial Bias in Your Children](#)
- [Rubbing Off](#)
- [New speaker's bureau highlights Catholics of color](#)
- [How TV Shows Can Reduce Prejudice](#)
- [Anti-Racist Resources for Your Youth Group](#)
- [Tackling White Privilege](#)

## Caring for our Common Home

- [Radical Joy for Hard Times](#)
- [Murmuration: A Stunning Animated Poem About Our Connection to Nature and to Each Other](#)

- [Earth Altars: A Practice for Grateful Living](#)
- [Morning Altars](#)
- [Climate Crisis Reads: 19 Books That Deepen Our Understanding](#)
- [Eco Stations of the Cross](#)

Hope is the basis for taking responsibility;  
for claiming our capacity to create,  
to make a genuinely new thing.

It is also the springboard for trying to act justly;  
and for accepting absolutely our incorporation into each other.

It is not simply that we share with each other  
a common humanity, but that individually we have no humanity  
without each other.

— Sara Maitland in *A Big Enough God*

## Reaching out

- [People often turn to faith for comfort during a crisis. How can churches help from behind closed doors?](#)
- [7 Ways to Generously Help People with Your Relief Check](#)
- [How Kindness Fits Into a Happy Life](#)

## Ideas and Suggestions for Families

- [It's in the Details](#)
- [Kids and Covid](#)

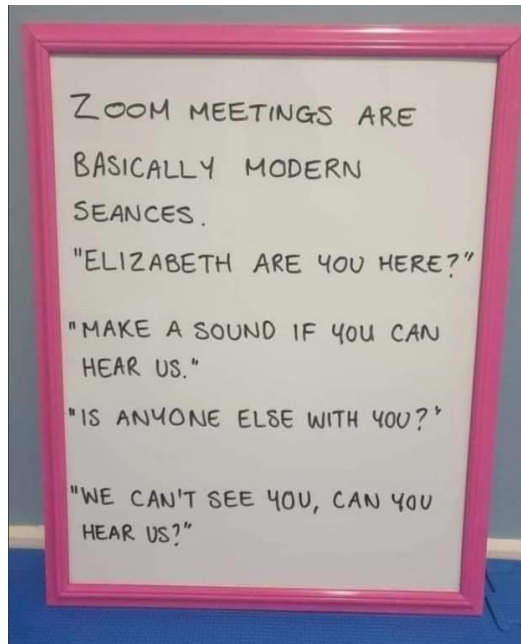
# GREAT ENDEAVORS MINED & SHARED

- [Spiritual Disciplines: Family Fasting](#)
- [5 Ways to Practice Justice and Mercy With Kids](#)

## Suggestions and Reflections for All of Us

- [The Mess Behind the Scenes](#)
- [COVID-Moments From A to Z: How Making a List Helped Me Practice Gratitude](#)
- [Six Ways to Manage Coronavirus Depression](#)
- [For Better Health During the Pandemic, Is Two Hours Outdoors the New 10,000 Steps?](#)
- [Yes, pandemic paranoia is real, experts say](#)
- [Practical Ways to Navigate a Hyper-Anxious World: Tools to Help](#)

## Humor during these times



## Technology Considerations

- [Experts Say the 'New Normal' in 2025 Will Be Far More Tech-Driven, Presenting More Big Challenges](#)
- [What we've learned about Americans' views of technology during the time of COVID-19](#)
- [Four Reasons Why Zoom Can Be Exhausting](#)
- [How to Grow Your Audience: 3 Keys to Creating Content People Actually Want to Read or See](#)



Janet Schaeffler, OP  
[www.janetschaeffler.com](http://www.janetschaeffler.com)  
[jschaeffler@adriandominicans.org](mailto:jschaeffler@adriandominicans.org)

Past issues of **GEMS** are archived at [www.janetschaeffler.com](http://www.janetschaeffler.com)

Additional ideas for Adult Faith Formation Planning and Best Practices can be found in:

- *Deepening Faith: Adult Faith Formation in the Parish*  
<https://www.litpress.org/Products/4652/Deepening-Faith>
- *The Seasons of Adult Faith Formation*  
[http://www.lifelongfaith.com/store/p25/The\\_Seasons\\_of\\_Adult\\_Faith\\_Formation.html](http://www.lifelongfaith.com/store/p25/The_Seasons_of_Adult_Faith_Formation.html) and <http://www.lifelongfaith.com/2015-adult-faith-formation-symposium.html>