



GREAT ENDEAVORS MINED & SHARED

from an International Adult Faith Formation Best Practices Study

#142 – May 15, 2021

A Best Practice: Resources for Our Time (Part XVII)

Since April 2020, 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 of the many resources available today. Many have been related to the times of COVID sheltering-at-home.

Now these resource 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 and Faith Formation Leaders

- [Three Tips for Church Leaders in Weird and Crazy Times](#)
- [Curiosity Strategies From Larry King](#)
- [Roadmap to Post-Pandemic Recovery: Faith Formation Planning for the Future](#)
- [Roadmap to Post-Pandemic Recovery, Part 2: Coming in for a Safe Landing](#)
- [ReEngage the Parish - Part 2](#)
- [7 Keys to Asking Better Questions](#)
- [Imagining Christian Community Post-Pandemic](#)
- [Why Go to Church?](#)
- [Forget To-Do Lists. You Really Need a 'Got Done' List](#)
- [5 Intergenerational Ideas for Marking a Return to Worship After the Pandemic](#)

- [Ideas for Robust Debrief and Ministry Reflection](#)
- [What a Word Cloud Can Tell You about Your Church's Culture](#)

A crisis often brings out the best in you
and you discover qualities that you never knew existed within.

~ Rajeev Siddhartha

Resources for upcoming feasts/liturgical year/the calendar year

- [Marian Treasure Hunt](#)
- [Marian Resources](#)
- [The many names of Mary](#)
- [Ascension to Pentecost: The First Novena—Free Poster and Booklet](#)
- [Creative, Simple Ways to Make and Use God's Big Pentecost Story Symbols](#)
- [Pentecost Resources](#)
- [Waiting for the Spirit](#) (Reflect on John Singleton Copley's artwork, The Ascension, with this video featuring Shemaiah Gonzalez)
- [Sunday Connection for Pentecost](#)
- [Pentecost Activities](#)
- [Sharing the Pentecost Story with Video & Activities](#)
- [How to Make a Simple Pentecost Take Home Box](#)
- [Three Teaching Points for Trinity Sunday](#)
- [Plan a Virtual Juneteenth Celebration](#)

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Resources for the Year of St. Joseph

- [St. Joseph and the Dignity of Work](#)
- [The Year of St. Joseph](#)
- [Year of St. Joseph](#)
- [Walking with St. Joseph](#)
- [Honoring Saint Joseph and Celebrating the Family](#)
- [Saint Joseph, An Accepting Father](#)
- [St. Joseph the Worker, pray for us](#)
- [How St. Joseph brought me to Mary](#)
- [New titles in the Litany of St. Joseph lead us closer to Christ](#)

“We live in a time of disruptions, deconstruction, and dislocations, of political chaos, climate crisis, and global pandemic. Yet we are still called to go on journeys to unexpected places, get lost, get found, and continue farther down the road.”

~ Diana Butler Bass

Resources for Formation Leaders (children and youth programming)

- [How Creativity and Innovation Help You Engage Families](#)
- [Intentional Vacation Bible School Planning Addresses Issues of Justice in Our Community](#)
- [An Introduction to Formation in Christian Practices](#)

Resources for Faith Formation Leaders (adult faith formation)

- [Mystagogy: The Art of Asking Questions of Life](#)
- [Searching for Lost Words](#)

- [Teaching about Truth in a Time of Doubt and Discord](#)
- [Young Adults in the 21st Century: A Conversation on Faith, Religion & Culture](#) (September 9-11 virtual event)
- [Henri Nouwen and the Art of Living](#) (A booklet series based on the insights of a spiritual master)
- [Henri Nouwen & the Art of Living](#) (June 4-5th webinar conference)
- [Failing Boldly](#) (a conversation about grief with Jan Richardson)
- [Why is an ongoing \(year-round\) RCIA important?](#)
- [How the RCIA will renew our parishes after the pandemic](#)
- [Is your RCIA open all year-round? Treating adults as adults](#)
- [What would happen if every parish had an ongoing \(year-round\) RCIA process?](#)
- [What Pope Francis wants RCIA teams to teach about mercy](#)
- [BEN Talks](#) (The fourteen BEN Talks videos are similar to TED Talks in length and style; however, this series is focused on Benedictine values and is delivered by monastic members of Saint John's Abbey and Saint Benedict's Monastery. BEN Talks help viewers gain a better understanding of the Benedictine history and values that shape the culture of their community, prompting us to reflect on how this wisdom can apply to our own lives and work.)

When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.' To this day, especially in times of 'disaster,' I remember my mother's words and I am always comforted by realizing that there are still so many helpers – so many caring people in this world.

~ Fred Rogers

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Resources for and about Prayer and Reflection

- [Intercessory Prayer in the Time of COVID](#)
- [Five Steps to Transform Negativity Through Prayer](#)

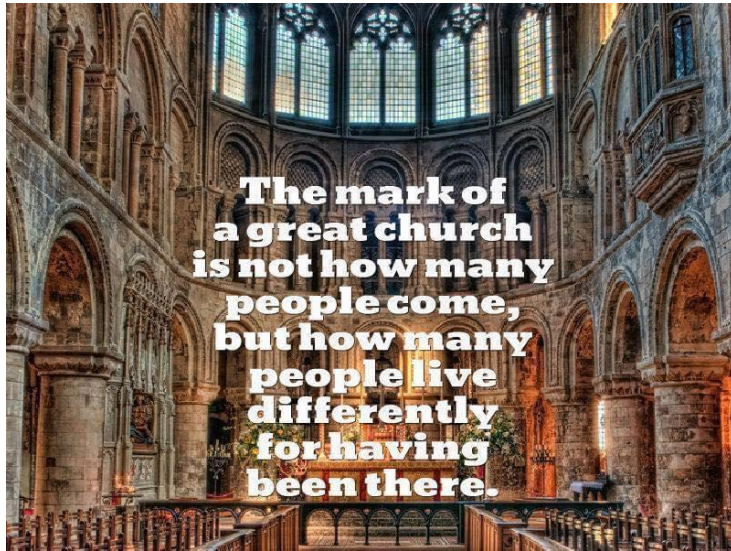
- [A Pandemic Alphabet](#)
- [Worship in Times of Crisis and Trauma](#)

- [Prayer from Catholic Relief Services](#)
- [Online Prayer Retreat for Hunger](#)

Music

- [For I Know the Plans I Have for You](#)
- [Beyond the Moon and Stars](#)

- [The Creation Song](#)
- [Singing our Theology](#)
- [Alleluia](#)



What could we accomplish if we knew we could not fail?

~ Eleanor Roosevelt

Catholic Liturgy

- [Visitation of Vatican liturgy office could lead to liturgical reform](#)
- [Ideas for the future of Catholic liturgical reform](#)

Catholic Social Teaching

- [Responding to Mass Violence](#)

Work toward Anti-Racism

- [Talking to Your Kids About Race](#)
- [Confessing Racism in the Workplace](#)

- [White Homework](#)
- [Racism and the Gospel Impact](#)

Caring for our Common Home

- [Reclaiming Our Common Home](#)
- [Earthise](#)

- [Greening Your Church Video Mini-Course: Ten Proven Steps to Inspire Your Faith Community Towards Sustainability](#) (free)

- [Developing Creation Care Ministry Video Course](#)
- [Does care for creation ignore the poor?](#)

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SOAR

Strengths: What can I build on?

Opportunities: What has my body – mind – spirit been asking for?

Aspirations: What do I really care about?

Results: How do I know when I'm succeeding?

~ Battisti Management Facilities

Ideas and Suggestions for Families

- [Parents, You Are Blessing Your Kids When You Get the COVID-19 Vaccination](#)
- [How Parents Witness Faith to Their Children](#)
- [Four poems that can help us teach our kids about God](#)
- [How to Motivate Kids to Share More](#)
- [Want to pass your faith to your children? Here's the key](#)

Suggestions and Reflections for All of Us

- [15 Lessons the Coronavirus Pandemic Has Taught Us](#)
- [The coronavirus has transformed all of our lives. When it's over, here's what I hope we remember.](#)
- [Six Daily Questions to Ask Yourself in Quarantine](#)
- [Remain Open To Beautiful Things](#)



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Past issues of **GEMS** are archived at 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 and <http://www.lifelongfaith.com/2015-adult-faith-formation-symposium.html>