



GREAT ENDEAVORS MINED & SHARED

from an International Adult Faith Formation Best Practices Study

#136 – February 15, 2021

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

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 probably 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 season
- Catholic social teaching
- Formation for an anti-racist society
- Caring for our common home

Some Practices, Resources and Reflections for Parishes

- [5 Ways to Lead when You Have No Money or Team](#)
- [8 Ways to Lead in the New Digital Default Church](#)
- [Listen with Love](#)
- [Pitching Our Tent With God in the Pandemic](#)
- [6 Invisible Things Church Leaders are Doing Really Well Right Now](#)
- [5 Healthcare Workers Share What's Breaking Their Hearts \(Listen Up, Churches\)](#)
- [Lamentations and Learnings](#)
- [How your parish can help those suffering from depression](#)
- [A Surprisingly Accurate Way to See if your Church or Organization Will Flounder after the Pandemic](#)
- [The Encouragement Every Ministry Leader Needs to Hear Right Now](#)

- [Pastoring In a Pandemic](#)
- [When the 'Going' Gets Tough...](#)
- [Adapting to a New Normal](#)

“...listening will do more at the moment than anything else we can do.

Listening to those we love and serve. How are they feeling and reacting to increasing Covid concerns, the national political conversation and how it all affects them?

Listening to all the voices - even ones in direct opposition to our own beliefs. What is being said? What is perceived and understood by people? Where is there convergence? Where is there divergence?

Listening to experts and our wisdom figures. What is the past teaching us? What are the consequences or the future forecast for us?

Listening to our hearts. Where do I stand on things? How is my life a positive witness to others even when I don't have it all together? What is God pressing upon me to learn, hear, do, give or share?

Listening to God's Word. What scriptures are you drawn to right now? What have you heard, learned, run from or chosen to act on?

Listening for little opportunities to love, dialogue, share faith, teach, form, forgive, reconcile and offer mercy and receive mercy.

Jane Angha

<https://www.ministryblueprints.com/blog-the-blueprint/2021/1/17/listen-with-love?>

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Resources for upcoming feasts/liturgical year/the calendar year

- [Practicing Spirituality in Winter](#)
- [Shrove Tuesday Online](#)
- [2021 Lenten Faith Sharing](#)

- [Lenten resources](#)
- [Lenten handouts](#)
- [Lent 2021 Resources](#)

- [How To Engage Young Catholics In Good Works This Lenten Season](#)
- [Ash Wednesday Prayers and Litanies](#)
- [A Printable Reflection and Prayer for Ash Wednesday](#)

- [What Does This Day Mean? Handout for Ash Wednesday at Home](#)
- [Lent & Easter at Home Kits](#)
- [Lent and Easter Prayer Cards](#)

- [Lent 2021: 5 Weeks with God's Word](#)
- [Lent Retreat 2021](#)
- [Children and Family Ministry Lent & Easter Resource Guide](#)

- [Growing in Friendship with God This Lent \(Video\)](#)
- [Making the Lenten Journey–Calendar Templates](#)
- [ReImagine Lent & Easter Again](#)

- [Resources for Lent](#)
- [Journey to the Cross: A Lenten Experience based on the Stations of the Cross](#)
- [Resources for Celebrating Lent for Kids](#)

- [Holy Week at Home: Praying with a Centerpiece](#)
- [The Way of the Cross – A Prayer for Hope and Healing Amidst Global Pandemic](#)
- [Faith Feeds Lenten Guides](#)

- [Drawing God Stations of the Cross](#)
- [People of the Way: Five Stations of the Cross Resources](#)

- [Bearing the Cross Today: Stations of the Cross Event Kit](#)
- [This is the Mystery of Easter](#)

Resources for the Year of St. Joseph

- [Celebrating the Year of St. Joseph](#)
- [The Fatherly Heart of St. Joseph](#)
- [Go To Joseph](#)

Loving God, Holy One,
Your desire is for our wholeness and well-being.
We hold in tenderness and prayer the collective suffering of our
world at this time.

We grieve precious lives lost and vulnerable lives threatened.
We ache for ourselves and our neighbors, standing before an
uncertain future.

We pray: May love, not fear, go viral.

Inspire our leaders to discern and choose wisely, aligned with
the common good.

Reveal to us new and creative ways to come together in spirit
and in solidarity.

Call us to profound trust in your faithful presence,
You, the God who does not abandon, You, the Holy One,
breathing within us,
breathing among us,
breathing around us
in our beautiful yet wounded world.

Sisters of IHM
Scranton, Pennsylvania

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Reflections/Resources for Pastoral Leaders/Faith Formation Leaders

- [Home-Allied Ministry Ideas, Courtesy of the Pandemic](#)
- [Creating Lifelong Faith Formation for Today's World](#)
- [Turnkey Resources for Parishes](#)
- [New Approaches to Faith Formation in the Midst of the Pandemic](#)
- [An Icebreaker for Remote Learning Sessions: The One-Minute Challenge](#)

Resources for Formation Leaders (children and youth programming)

- [Breakfast with God](#)
- [Children's Ministry in the Midst of Disruption](#)
- [Supporting Families in an Anxious World: Professional Guidance for Children's Ministry Leaders](#)
- [Help Learners Prepare for Penance and Reconciliation](#)
- [5 Ways to Retell a Bible Story With Kids](#)
- [Including People with Disabilities](#)
- [The Value of Lectio Divina in Class](#)
- [Baptism Welcome Cards](#)
- [Help Children and Teens Thrive After the Impacts of COVID-19](#) (February 11, webinar)

When you feel yourself breaking down,
may you break open instead.
May every experience in life be a door that opens your heart,
expands your understanding, and leads you to freedom.

~ Elizabeth Lesser

Resources for Faith Formation Leaders (adult faith formation)

- [Faith Feeds](#)
- [Ministry to and With People in the Third Third of Life](#)
- [Eight ways to get RCIA buy-in from everyone in the parish—including the pastor](#)
- [Have you asked all four of these questions about your RCIA teaching process?](#)
- [Will your Rite of Election be a true decision point this year?](#)
- [What are we doing at the Rite of Election?](#)

Resources for and about Prayer and Reflection

- [Five Ways of Praying Through Sorrow](#)
- [The Miracle of Morning](#)
- [The Gift of Grief](#)
- [7 Habits of Prayerful People](#)
- [Five Ways of Praying Through Sorrow](#)
- [A Closer Look at the Peace Prayer of St. Francis](#)
- [Living a Prayerful Life](#)
- [Intention for Waiting for Vaccine](#)
- [Let's add 5 healing mysteries to the rosary](#)
- [Grieving—with Words, Pen, and Color Part 1](#)
- [Ongoing Prayer Intentions during Covid-19](#)
- [Pause, Breathe, Notice How You Feel](#)
- [A Rhythm of Prayer: A Collection of Meditations for Renewal](#)

Music

- [The Lord Bless You and Keep You](#)
- [A Tribute to All Nations](#)

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- [Watch, O Lord](#)
- [You Can Do This Hard Thing](#)

- [Wonderfully Made](#)
- [Your Face](#)

- [I Forgive](#)
- [Hope for the World's Despair \(Hymn of Peace\)](#)

- [The Serenity Prayer Song](#)

Catholic Social Teaching

- [Dignity & The Death Penalty: A Conversation with Sister Helen Prejean](#)
- [Justice Cafe](#) (February 21 webinar on Health Equity: an interactive conversation and activities focusing on barriers to mental health and health insurance access)

Work toward Anti-Racism

- [5 Ideas to Help Your Church Work Toward Racial Justice and God's Shalom](#)
- [Anti-racism work is a lifelong commitment. Are you ready?](#)
- [Is Dialogue Enough to Bridge Racial Divides?](#)
- [Black History Month with Brother Mickey McGrath](#) (February webinars)
- [9 Rules for the Woke Birdwatcher](#)
- [Celebrating Catholic Saints and Holy People of Color](#)

Caring for our Common Home

- ["Earthrise" by Amanda Gorman](#)

- [The Climate Reality Project](#)
- [My First Best Friend](#)

- [Climate Change, Pandemic and a Vulnerable World \(February 28th webinar\)](#)
- [Climate Change Conference](#)

Ideas and Suggestions for Families

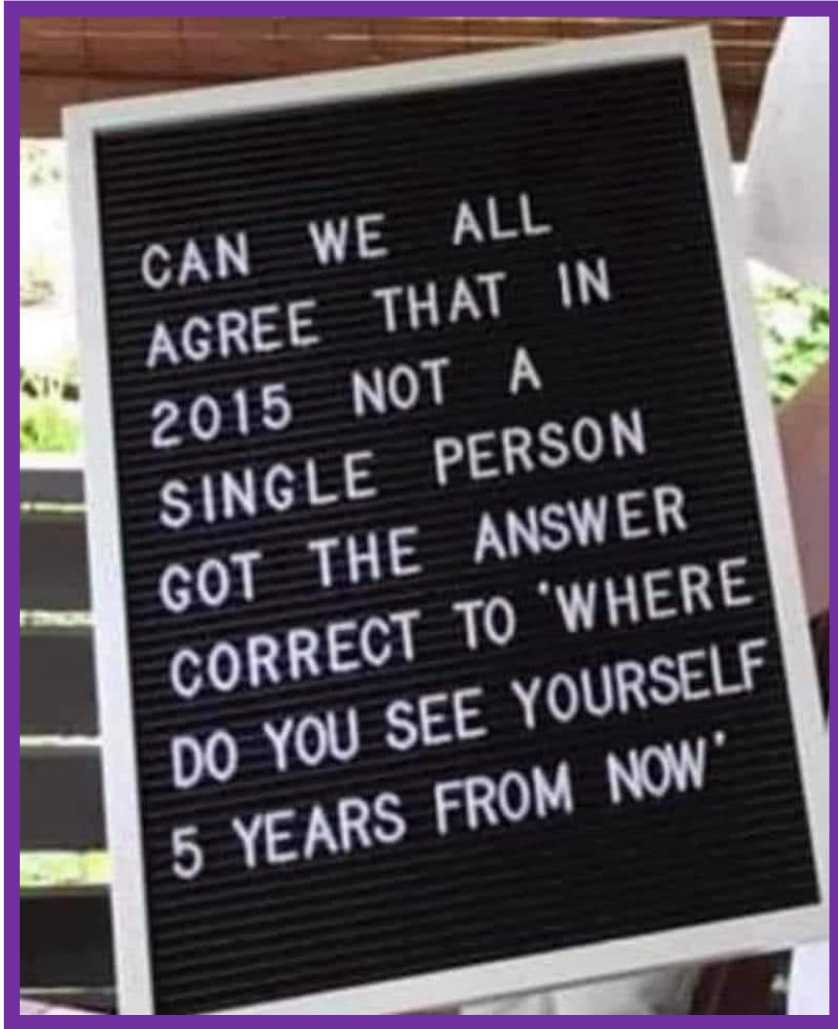
- [Telling Your Children the Truth in a World of Sorrow and Pain](#)
- [A Family "Rule of Life" Reduces Anxiety, Brings Peace](#)
- [31 Hours Outside in January / What We Learned and Did](#)
- [The Hopeful Family: Raising Resilient Children in Uncertain Times](#)

Suggestions and Reflections for All of Us

- [Fallow & Productive, Creativity & COVID-19](#)
- [10 Things To Let Go Of In 2021](#)
- [Looking at Life Differently](#)
- [Five Skills We Need for the Year Ahead](#)
- [How to Care for Yourself in Times of Loneliness](#)
- [Why New Year's Resolutions Matter More in a Pandemic](#)
- [Time to Heal](#)
- [A Cure for Loneliness](#)
- [Healing in the Wilderness](#)
- [Hitting Your 'Pandemic Wall'? You're Certainly Not Alone—Here Are 11 Tips to Deal from Experts](#)

Humor during these times

- [Quarantine through ART](#)
- [Between Art and Quarantine Challenge](#)



Adding New Luster to an Older GEMS

Several past issues have looked at the role of technology in ministry, in faith formation today. This article, [Do Catholics need a new code of ethics for the digital age](#), is pertinent as we find ourselves now using technology more than ever.



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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](http://www.lifelongfaith.com/store/p25/The_Seasons_of_Adult_Faith_Formation.html) and <http://www.lifelongfaith.com/2015-adult-faith-formation-symposium.html>