



# GREAT ENDEAVORS MINED & SHARED

*from an International Adult Faith Formation Best Practices Study*

#146 – July 15, 2021

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

Since April 2020, in addition to some of our themed issues and/or issues of specific best practices, several **GEMS** issues have looked at some of the many resources available for faith formation today. Many have been related to the times of COVID sheltering-at-home.

Now these resource issues (which are sent once a month – in the middle of the month) will continue to look at resources for these days of living post-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

- [A Gentle Regathering: Practical Resources for Tending to Grief & Loss](#)
- [A Parish that Does Things Differently](#)
- [What will your parish look like post-pandemic? It may depend on how it responded to coronavirus](#)
- [How To Get Volunteers Everywhere](#)
- [How to Create a Solid Volunteer Community](#)
- [21 Things No Leader Ever Regrets Doing](#)
- [5 Confessions of a Pastor about Online Church Attendance](#)
- [Ways congregations can be more inclusive](#)
- [Declining Volunteer Numbers and 5 Steps to Reverse It](#)
- [5 Steps for Successfully Onboarding Volunteers](#) (July 22 webinar)

- [Leadership “Dust” is Holding You Back. 3 Ways to Fight it](#)
- [Recovering Yourself Emotionally](#)
- [How We Continue Moving Forward in the Midst of the Unknown](#)
- [Should Churches Print Bulletins?](#)
- [The Catechist and Scripture — A Parish-Based Retreat](#)
- [“Being versus Doing” – A Retreat for Catechists](#)
- [Stewardship Jumpstart - Treasure](#)
- [8 Things that are Right \(Not Wrong\) about Young Leaders](#)
- [Building Capacity for Faith Formation](#)
- [3 Questions to Ask Upon Returning to In-Person Worship](#)
- [Breaking the Habit of Offloading Our Responsibility for Parish Life to Others](#)
- [Weaving Faith in a New Program Year](#)

Let's build a society where it's easier for people to be good to each other.

~ Dorothy Day

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

- [26 Fun & Faith Filled Summer Activities for Girls from A to Z](#)
- [Three Ways to Recharge in the Summertime](#)
- [Creative Summertime Ways to Connect](#)
- [Embracing Summer's Space](#)

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- [12 Ways to Keep in Touch with High School Grads](#)
- [Blessing of the Backpacks and Back-to-School Worship Liturgy](#)
- [Back to School Blessing Tags & Stickers](#)
- [Back to School Blessings & Prayers: A Handout](#)
- [Build a Back to School Prayer Station](#)
- [Recognizing Excitement, Anxiety, & Everything In Between When Blessing Backpacks](#)
- [Welcoming New and Returning Students to Your Campus Ministry](#)

## Resources for the Year of St. Joseph

- [St. Joseph: A saint for fathers](#)
- [Year of St Joseph Reflection](#)
- [Celebrating the Year of St. Joseph](#)
- [‘With a Father’s Heart: That is How Joseph Loved Jesus’](#)

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

- [Story as a Path to Healing: An Activity for Youth](#)
- [Sharing Generative Stories](#)
- [Five Ideas for Accompanying Catechists Back to the Classroom](#)
- [Re-Igniting the Post-Pandemic Church: Whatever You Do, Don’t Return to Normal](#)
- [Connecting Home and Church: Awakening Parents to Family Discipleship](#)
- [Let the little children have their own liturgy of the Word](#)
- [The Catholic Way: Believe, Pray, Live - Sessions, Handouts, and Scripture Reflections for Exploring the Catholic Faith](#)
- [Try This Fresh Idea for Helping Families Explore Faith Practices this Summer](#)

- [10 Articles for Helping and Engaging Parents](#)
- [5 Ways to Bless Your Church With \(Free!\) DWELL at Home Resources](#)
- [16 Ideas for Using Extra Time](#)
- [What Happens at Youth Group??](#)
- [Free Tools and Resources – Youth](#)
- [Stop, Collaborate, and Listen: Practical Steps to Increasing Intergenerationality](#)
- [Family Faith Formation](#)
- [Teaching Children How to Pray](#)
- [What if We’re Failing Kids at Faith Formation? \(And How Not To\)](#)
- [Family Faith Formation Resources | Summer](#)

Start being brave about everything.  
Drive out darkness and spread light.  
Don’t look at your weaknesses.  
Realize instead that in Christ . . . you can do everything.

~ St. Catherine of Siena

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

- [What we’re reading this month](#)
- [Free resources from RENEW International](#)
- [3 films that highlight women disciples](#)
- [7 Steps for a Do-It-Yourself Retreat](#)
- [Prayer of an Aging Disciple Packet](#)

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- [Conversations on Spirituality in a Time of Reckoning | Part 1 On Grief](#) (webinar)
- [5 Must-Read Books to Deepen Your Faith This Summer](#)
- [2021 Summer Photo Challenge](#)
- [Conversations on Spirituality in a Time of Reckoning | Part 2 On Righteous Anger](#) (webinar)
- [The Power of 3 Questions](#)
- [Embracing “Pajama Catechesis” — Connecting with Seekers beyond COVID-19](#)
- [Fratelli Tutti on Culture and Society](#)
- [Tea in the Parking Lot](#)
- [The journey toward becoming an RCIA catechist](#)
- [Should we provide ritual scripts for RCIA seekers?](#)
- [The job of the RCIA coordinator or director](#)
- [Prepare and Celebrate the Rites of the RCIA](#) (Free videos to watch during the week of July 19)

Who we listen to determines what we hear;  
Where we stand determines what we see;  
What we do determines who we are.

~ Robert McAfee Brown

## Ideas and Suggestions for Families

- [7 Ways to Fill Your Family’s Road Trip with Fun and Faith](#)
- [Creative Prayer Resources for Kids and Teens](#)
- [A Better Way to Apologize](#)

- [How to make Mass mean more to kids](#)
- [Ten Ways to Help Your Family Grow in Faith](#)
- [5 Ways to Wonder With Kids](#)
- [Please Stop Buying Plastic Crap for Kids](#)

## Suggestions and Reflections for All of Us

- [What is God doing Here?](#)
- [How the pandemic taught me to embrace downtime](#)
- [The Importance Of Mourning Losses \(Even When They Seem Small\)](#)
- [Slow down: Be where you are and be there well](#)
- [The Future of Work](#)
- [‘Wasting’ Ordinary Time](#)
- [How to Stay Focused During Our Return to “Normal”](#)
- [Take Time to Fill Your Cup](#)

## Resources for and about Prayer and Reflection

- [10 retreats to restore your soul](#)
- [Pray with the four elements to connect to God and the Earth](#)
- [A Celtic Prayer](#)
- [The Gift of Silence](#)
- [Taizé can bring us together](#)
- [Praying for our Countries](#)
- [Praying through Pain](#)
- [Strengthening our Spiritual Backbones](#)
- [100 "Thank You"s](#)

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## Music

- [Gee Seven](#)
- [Scenic Relaxation Film With Calming Music](#)
- [Scenic Relaxation FPV Film With Calming Music](#)

## Church

- [Francis widens scope of next synod: diocesan, continental phases before Vatican event](#)
- [The Stuff of Our Faith](#)
- [The Church Innovative: How and Why the Catholic Church Fosters Change](#)

## Catholic Social Teaching

- [Four Ways Self-Compassion Can Help You Fight for Social Justice](#)
- [Five Ways to Have Better Conversations about Immigration](#)
- [Divine revelation leads to revolution](#)
- [Voter Participation and the Common Good: Political Strategies, Moral Questions, Catholic Principles](#)
- [Bridging Differences](#) (Free online course; learn research-based strategies for better relationships, dialogue, and understanding across divides. Relevant to anyone navigating conflicts and differences)

## Work toward Anti-Racism

- [How race influences our Catholicism—whether we know it or not](#)
- [Anti-racism work is a lifelong commitment. Are you ready?](#)
- [Fear, Flukes & Critical Race Theory](#)
- [Anti-Racist Resources](#)
- [We Are One Body: Race and Catholicism](#)
- [Fratelli Tutti on Racism and Anti-Racism](#)

- [God is beyond race and gender. Our sacred art should be too.](#)
- [Faith in Action: Resources for Today's Anti-Racist Catholic](#)
- [Teens Teach Adults About Dismantling Racism](#)

## Caring for our Common Home

- [Noticing Nature in the City](#)
- [Does the earth have a prayer?](#)
- [Thanksgiving Address - Greetings to the Natural World](#)
- [Digital Retreat for Deepening Our Relationship With God and Nature](#)

You have to be able to imagine lives  
that are not yours.

~Wendell Berry

## Technology Considerations

- [How Technology Can Link Teachers, Students, and Parents](#)
- [How to Reset Your Family's Screen Time After the Pandemic](#)
- [Pope Francis warns against preachers who sow division online](#)
- [Zoom Practices I Hope We Keep in the Return to In-Person Worship](#)

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