



Called & Co-Responsible

SUMMER SEMINARS FOR CHURCH LIFE RENEWAL



McGRATH INSTITUTE FOR CHURCH LIFE



FOSTERING PASTORAL CREATIVITY IN THE COMMUNITY

The Catholic Imagination

Emerges from the dynamic relationship between
the gift and task of communion

The Gift of Communion:

The offer of God's Life by the Spirit, drawing us into the union of the Father and Son

The Task of Communion:

To become what you received - a bond of communion for others - the reality of charity

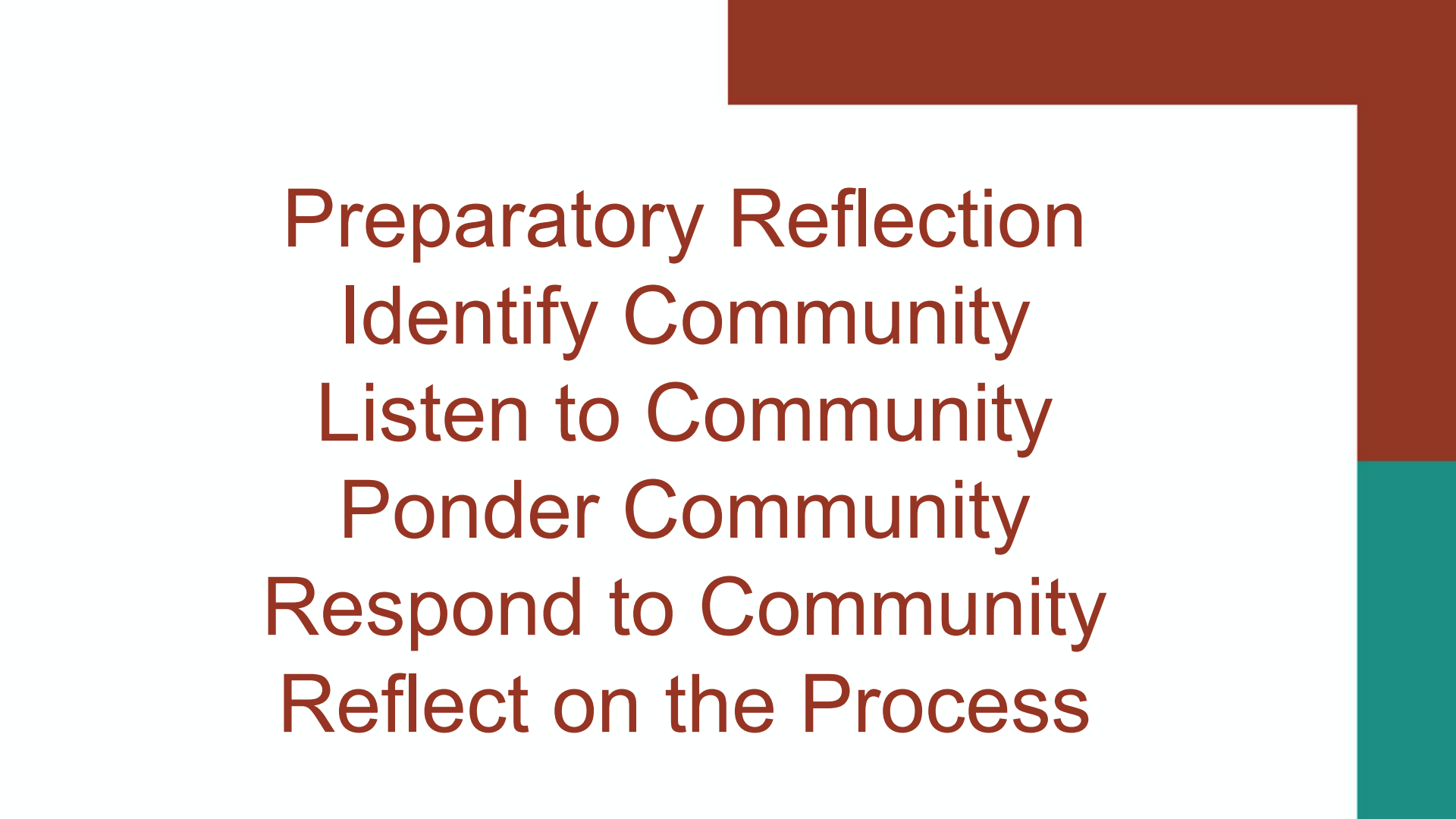
At the heart of Notre Dame Vision
is the mission to empower young people
to recognize grace at work in their lives
and respond to God's call
by offering their gifts
in service to the needs of the world.

I ask you also to be protagonists of this transformation. You are the ones who hold the key to the future! Continue to fight apathy and to offer a Christian response to the social and political troubles emerging in different parts of the world. I ask you to build the future, to work for a better world.

Dear young people, please, do not be bystanders in life. Get involved! Jesus was not a bystander. He got involved. Don't stand aloof, but immerse yourselves in the reality of life, as Jesus did. **Above all, in one way or another, fight for the common good, serve the poor, be protagonists of the revolution of charity and service, capable of resisting the pathologies of consumerism and superficial individualism.**

~ Pope Francis,

Christus Vivit, 174.



Preparatory Reflection

- Identify Community
- Listen to Community
- Ponder Community
- Respond to Community
- Reflect on the Process

Preliminary Preparations

- What are you excited about as you begin this process?
- As you reflect on the place of prayer and reflection in your own life, what practices draw your attention?
- How do you plan to grow in your understanding of the gift and task of communion this summer?

Identify Community

- What community do you feel drawn to serve?
- What makes you curious about this community?
- How do you plan to approach this community?
- What is your disposition towards them?

Listen to Community

- How do you plan to listen to this community?
- What are the challenges facing the members of your community?
- What are their fears? What are their hopes?
- What gifts does this community have?
- How can you cultivate openness and empathy?

Ponder Community

- What did you hear? What resonates with you? What are the greatest needs present?
- What themes of the Catholic Imagination speak to this community?
- How will you pray for this community?
- How can you help your community to practice hope, develop resilience and perseverance? Recognize and articulate grace at work in their lives?

Respond to Community

- What do you hope to create? What need(s) are you hoping it will address?
- What resources would you need to complete it? Which do you already have?
- How will you use your formation, skills and talents in your response?
- What more do you need to learn to successfully shape or implement your response?
- What are signs that this is a fruitful response? Attentive to needs?

Reflect on Process

- What did you learn in this process about yourself? about listening? about your community? the Catholic Imagination?
- What did you create? How did it address the needs you identified?
- Where have you seen grace at work in this process?
- If you could go back and tell yourself one thing at the beginning of this process, what would it be? What would you do differently?

I want to state clearly that **young people themselves are agents of youth ministry**. Certainly they need to be helped and guided, but at the same time left free to **develop new approaches, with creativity and a certain audacity**.

So I will not attempt here to propose a kind of manual of youth ministry or a practical pastoral guide. I am more concerned with helping young people to **use their insight, ingenuity and knowledge to address the issues and concerns of other young people in their own language**.

Pope Francis, *Christus Vivit*, 203

#1

*Curating wonder and curiosity for
Pastoral Creativity through the
beauty and witness of the Church.*

#2

*Strengthening commitment to
Pastoral Creativity by cultivating
relationships and providing
pastoral support.*



Question for Breakout Discussion or Personal Reflection:

You have the option to join a breakout room or remain in the main room for silent reflection.

How might this model work in your setting (parish, school, diocese, family, etc) to inspire missionary creativity and empower the laity for co-responsibility?

"Life in Community, Aidan Hart with contributions from Donald Jackson, Copyright 2002, The Saint John's Bible, Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved."



Examples of the “Pastoral Creativity in the Community” social media campaign on the Notre Dame Vision Facebook, Instagram and Twitter Accounts

IDENTIFY COMMUNITY



Notre Dame Vision



Page Liked · June 22 · Edited ·

At the heart of Notre Dame Vision is the mission to empower young people to recognize grace at work in their lives and respond to God's call by offering their gifts in service to the needs of the world.

This mission lives on! We invite you to join us in a process of pastoral creativity in your local community! The first step is to identify the community you plan to serve using the following questions:

- *What community do you feel drawn to serve this summer?
- *What makes you curious about this community?
- *How do you plan to approach this community?
- *What is your disposition towards them?

On Friday, we will share examples of the communities our Mentors chose to serve this summer!

#Vision2020



13

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VISIT THE SICK

CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

NOTRE DAME. **VISION**



Notre Dame Vision

Page Liked · June 23 · Edited ·

Over the next several weeks, we will share practical tips and resources as part of a process we are calling "Pastoral Creativity in the Community." Each Tuesday, we will share a Corporal Work of Mercy as well as suggestions for engagement. On Thursdays, we will share a Spiritual Work of Mercy and further suggestions for engagement. Our mentors are working this summer to engage their communities and we challenge you to think of the ways you can work alongside us and engage too!

Today we highlight "Visit the Sick." (Illustrations by Julie Lonneman)

PONDER:

Those who are sick experience not just physical suffering, but also the pain of isolation, especially in these times of COVID-19. While in-person visits may not be possible at the present moment, there are many creative ways to bring comfort to those who are ill.

ACT:

- * Allow your own experience of loneliness during this time of quarantine to deepen your compassion for those who are ill and alone.
- * Send cards or flowers to those in the hospital or nursing home.
- * Offer to grocery shop or cook for those caring for chronically sick family members to limit their exposure.
- * Make and display signs thanking the health care workers in your community.
- * Donate blood.



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CERTAINLY, AS MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH, WE SHOULD NOT STAND APART FROM OTHERS. ALL SHOULD REGARD US AS FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS, LIKE THE APOSTLES, WHO "ENJOYED THE GOOD WILL OF ALL THE PEOPLE" (ACTS 2:47).

YET AT THE SAME TIME WE MUST
DARE TO BE DIFFERENT,
TO POINT TO IDEALS OTHER THAN THOSE OF THIS
WORLD, TESTIFYING TO THE
BEAUTY OF GENEROSITY, SERVICE, PURITY,
PERSEVERANCE, FORGIVENESS,
FIDELITY TO OUR PERSONAL VOCATION,
PRAYER, THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE AND
THE COMMON GOOD,
LOVE FOR THE POOR,
AND SOCIAL FRIENDSHIP.

Pope Francis, *Christus Vivit* #36

NOTRE DAME **VISION**



Notre Dame Vision

· July 8 · Edited ·



In his Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, *Christus Vivit*, Pope Francis encourages young people to engage in missionary creativity. As part of Pastoral Creativity in the Community, each Wednesday we will post an inspirational quote from Pope Francis to sustain us in mission. #Vision2020



7

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ADMONISH THE SINNER

SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

NOTRE DAME. **VISION**



Notre Dame Vision

· July 2 · Edited ·



For the next few weeks, each Thursday we will highlight a Spiritual Work of Mercy and offer suggestions for engagement. This week we explore "Admonish the Sinner" (Illustrations by Julie Lonneman)

PONDER

Pope Francis calls us not toward judgment that alienates, but toward compassion. In compassion we meet the other where they are, supporting and helping them to find their way and correct their mi... [See More](#)



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the homeless population in my hometown * children who are sick because they often end up feeling alone, scared, and uncertain about the future * youth of my former parish * teenagers from rural areas like me with a limited view of what is possible * those unable to hold a funeral for loved ones who have died * the corporal work of burying the dead * high school and college age students through sacred music, reflection, and prayer * children who come from low-income households * middle school aged-girls in my parish * teens about to undergo Confirmation this summer * friends who were faithful in high school but became disconnected in college * young people suffering * tweens and highschoolers * my parish community * liturgical ministers in the time of COVID-19 * those beginning college in the fall * youth choir community at my parish * hospice center * teens suffering from mental illnesses * young people who have been affected by COVID * middle schoolers of our parish * high schoolers/middle schoolers using social media * youth at my parish * the elderly, those in nursing homes or assisted living facilities * communities of color * junior high school students * hospice or end-of-life care * elderly alone for most of quarantine * the incarcerated * families trying to grow in holiness together * those who have lost loved ones to COVID-19 and were unable to hold funerals * high schoolers * my immediate family * ministers and musicians separated from the liturgy * college residents I will serve as an RA in the fall * the Catholic teen community of my hometown where three Catholic parishes will be consolidated into one at the end of the summer * my local Catholic parish and school * the "Sodality alumni" community in the spiritual transition from high school to college * my four younger siblings (ages 6, 12, 15, and 17) * high school graduates who missed all of their senior moments * minority homeless community in my hometown * organization serving Chinese Americans * those in prison and those on death row * my high school youth group

IDENTIFY COMMUNITY



Notre Dame Vision

· June 26 · Edited ·



On Monday, we invited you to join us in a process of pastoral creativity in your local community. Today we share the communities our Mentors have chosen to focus on this summer!

At the heart of Notre Dame Vision is the mission to empower young people to recognize grace at work in their lives and respond to God's call by offering their gifts in service to the needs of the world. How can you keep this mission alive this summer?

#Vision2020



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NEXT WEEK, JULY 22

DESIGNING FOR CO-RESPONSIBILITY

DR. CLARE KILBANE