

Wellspring for Living Stones

A Collection of Prayers, Reflections, and More | Volume 8 | May 27, 2020

The Madonna University mission is steadfast. The faculty and staff of the Mission Core Team would like to share resources rooted in the MU mission to instill Christian humanistic values, intellectual inquiry, a respect for diversity, and a commitment to serving others, to help guide our community through uncharted waters.

“Visit” Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in the Upper Peninsula

The awe-inspiring aerial imagery of Michigan’s Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore calms our spirit and gives us a sense of gratitude and trust, even in these very trying times. It is indeed wonderful that we have a capacity to enjoy the endless beauty of nature. Here is our own gem from the Upper Peninsula.

—
from **Andrew Domzalski**, Professor and Chair of the Department of Humanities and Co-Director, Center for Catholic Studies & Interfaith Dialogue

Suspended

I had grasped God’s garment in the void
but my hand slipped
On the rich silk of it.
The ‘everlasting arms’ my sister loved to remember
must have upheld my leaden weight
from falling, even so,
for though I claw at empty air and feel
nothing, no embrace,
I have not plummeted.

—Denise Levertov

—
from **Jesse Cox**,
Director of Campus Ministry

Many of us have created home offices during this time—even if that just means a pile of papers among other piles of papers. Mine includes a pile of favorite books. In there is a passage from *The Braindead Megaphone*, by George Saunders, which reminds me how to approach this challenging time:

America is, and always has been, undecided about whether it will be the United States of Tom or the United States of Huck. The United States of Tom looks at misery and says: Hey, I didn't do it. It looks at inequity and says: All my life I busted my butt to get where I am, so don't come crying to me. Tom likes kings, codified nobility, unquestioned privilege. Huck likes people, fair play, spreading the truck around. Whereas Tom knows, Huck wonders. Whereas Huck hopes, Tom presumes. Whereas Huck cares, Tom denies. ... The hope of the nation and of the world is to embrace the Huck part and send the Tom part back up the river, where it belongs.

—From “The United States of Huck,” by George Saunders (an introduction to Mark Twain’s *Adventure of Huckleberry Finn*)

—
from **Colleen McLellan**, Director of Service-Learning & Civic Engagement

A Prayer of Remembrance and Hope is available [here](#). The Mission Core team invites you to join the campus community, as we share this prayer while we are apart, each Monday at 12:00 PM.



Wellspring for Living Stones is [updated, added to, and archived online](#).

If you have questions or concerns, or would like to submit materials to include, please contact Colleen McLellan in the Office of Service-Learning & Civic Engagement: cmclellan@madonna.edu