



LENT 2022

Third Conversation

Hard Choices and Helping Hands

Summary

In the third conversation, we're invited to wrestle with institutional structures, hardships, and obstacles. The most obvious manifestation of this involves money and property. The irony of this is, of course, that these concerns pre-date the pandemic—just as much as we will scapegoat the pandemic for the moment, we may be tempted to avoid *learning from* the pandemic. All the more challenging for us given the tension between *safety/sustainability* and our mission to *serve others* beyond ourselves.

For those reading along, our three conversation partners for this week, Elise Erikson Barrett, Miguel Escobar, and James Murphy invite us to explore how our hard choices cannot be isolated from our mission and how *creativity* and *collaboration* are our best friends in this struggle.

Questions for This Week

1. What questions about financial structures and sustainability will emerge from this time of isolation to confront parishes and judicatories?

2. Is self-help the only option?

Next Week March 25

Fourth Conversation: Inequality, Marginalization—and Renewal