## Building Collaboration Between Schools and Parishes During Crises

CLARE KILBANE, PH.D. & TIMOTHY O'MALLEY, PH.D.

There are a lot of ways to think about crisis today, especially in secular literature. In this dialogue. Dr. Clare Kilbane and Dr. Tim O'Malley focus on how to approach crises with a Catholic worldview and a particular focus on the sacramental life in both parishes and schools.





## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- 1. What does your parish do to approach hard decisions in a way that demonstrates love to those affected by them? What more could it do?
- 2. How does your parish ensure that all parish and school personnel are prepared to respond to any occasion, especially crises and times when people need accompaniment, by modeling the love of Christ? What more might it do?
- 3. What does your parish do to intentionally cultivate relationships so that parishioners can support each other in times of crisis? What more might it do?
- 4. What insights did you have during the crisis of Covid-19 about sacramental preparation in your parish? Did you learn anything about sacramental preparation moving forward?



"On that day, as evening drew on, he said to them, 'Let us cross to the other side.' Leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat just as he was. And other boats were with him. A violent squall came up and waves were breaking over the boat, so that it was already filling up. Jesus was in the stern, asleep on a cushion. They woke him and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' He woke up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Quiet! Be still!'\* The wind ceased and there was great calm. Then he asked them, 'Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?' They were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?'"



## **RESOURCES**

[BOOK] The Five Dysfunctions of a Team by Patrick Lencioni

[BOOK] Christ in the Storm: An Extraordinary Blessing for a Suffering World by Pope Francis

[ARTICLE] Does a Catholic School Evangelize? by Timothy O'Malley, Ph.D.



Clare Kilbane, Ph.D.

Dr. Clare Kilbane serves as the Senior Learning Designer for the McGrath Institute for Church Life at the University of Notre Dame. She is also the Director of Research and Development for McGrath Theology Online, its Catholic Schools Outreach Coordinator, and a faculty member affiliated with the Echo Program. Kilbane completed a B.S. in Elementary Education at the University of Dayton and began her career as a teacher and technology coordinator at St. James the Less School. She later attained an M.A. in Instructional Design and Technology from The Ohio State University, and a Ph.D. in Educational Evaluation from the University of Virginia.



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Dr. Timothy O'Malley is the Director of Education and Academic Director of the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy in the McGrath Institute for Church Life. He holds a concurrent appointment in the Department of Theology at the University of Notre Dame. O'Malley received his undergraduate degree in theology and philosophy and his M.T.S. in liturgical studies from the University of Notre Dame. He completed a doctorate in theology and education at Boston College focusing on an Augustinian approach to liturgical formation. He researches and teaches in the areas of liturgical-sacramental theology, marriage and family, catechesis, and spirituality. O'Malley is the author of a number of books, most recently Off the Hook: God, Love, Dating, and Marriage in a Hookup World (Ave Maria Press, 2018) and Lift Up Your Hearts: Liturgical Formation in the RCIA (Liturgical Press, 2019).