

*Becoming Bread*

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I woke up this morning to the news that Hobby Lobby has succumbed to pressure and made the decision last night to close their doors and furlough their employees. I visited Hobby Lobby yesterday to purchase Easter/Spring décor and a bandana to cover my mouth and nose. I spent more time in the bandana department selecting just the right one, soft and a lovely shade of yellow. Now I'm sorry I didn't buy several to match my wardrobe! Seriously, when is the madness going to end? Will there be enough toilet paper in 3 weeks? The makers of Angel Soft assure us that they are alive and well producing roll after roll of that much needed commodity.

Kidding aside, I am at times speechless regarding the ever-changing world situation. My thoughts and feelings change almost daily but I am steadfast in my sadness over people of all faiths being denied gathering as faith communities to pray, celebrate and give thanks. Like many of you, I am thankful to the CEE, our local parishes and diocese for their efforts in keeping all of us spiritually grounded.

In addition to the resources mentioned above, I have found great comfort in a book I purchased many years ago entitled, Becoming Bread, Meditations on Loving and Transformation by Gunilla Norris. Ms. Norris begins the first chapter with an old Russian proverb, *Bread on a journey is no burden. We are on the mother of all journeys.* She uses the making, baking and sharing of bread as the inspiration of her meditations

I've been going back and forth with which one to share as they all speak to our current situation. I hope you find comfort, wisdom and understanding in the selection.

*The Second Rising*

*God longs for God and uses us, rises in us...becomes in us.*

*Let us be silent, a quiet dough where God moves into every pore where God lives as God pleases.*

*Let us rise simply, a quiet dough.*