



Mary and Bob often find themselves sharing common ground when it comes to philosophy and ministry. When approaching ministerial concerns from different angles, He Said - She Said is a venue to share differing perspectives. WE Said reflects some mutual food for thought. (And then again, sometimes we're exactly on the same page - just sayin' - Bob)

## Life Comes at You Fast

*Bob and Mary's Perspective*

Not to repeat what we said in our last blog, but life is still coming at us fast! Quickly? Rapid fire! SUPER SONIC!!

Much has happened in our lives in the past two weeks. As this blog is posted (2/1/24), Mary is starting her new position as Director of the Office for Worship for the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland. Bob has abandoned any immediate hope of a quiet retirement and has been appointed *<insert fancy trumpet flourish>* Director of Liturgy and Music for St. Mary Magdalene Church! God help us all.

In some ways, this transition is beautiful and comfortable for folks at the parish level. Indeed, passing on your gig to your best friend makes walking away a little easier – it feels less like leaving and more like sharing new adventures together. But change is not without challenge, emotionally, physically, and spiritually. The most devastating things about change are the fear of the unknown and the interruption of normalcy. One way to soften the discomfort is to identify our new normal, reframe our thinking a bit, and find balance in a period that has taken away our typical strategies for achieving balance. Time for walking, playing the piano, and just eating a meal together has been fleeting, with the prospect of those times being fewer and farther between. We definitely need to be more intentional, and develop new life rituals that will support balance in our lives. We are getting there, but are clearly a work in process!

Be assured that *Sustaining the Journey* will continue to flourish and grow! Our next few blog posts will likely narrate our adventures as we both find firm footing on our new ministry paths. We are certain that good things are in the works! Each of our new roles will open doors to opportunities, points of view, relationships, and prayer that will impact our wider circle in a positive way.

Remember what Mark Twain said:

*“The secret of getting ahead is getting started. The secret of getting started is breaking your complex, overwhelming tasks into small manageable tasks, and then starting on your first one.”*

And so we begin!