

NEW CREATION

YEAR 1, 7th Sunday of Ordinary Time

For this activity, you will need large paper (butcher roll would be best), markers, tape and string.

Pose this question to the group: *Have you ever being working on a project that you just couldn't stop tinkering with? You kept erasing and rewriting or going back in with a little more paint or going back over again and again with a marker? You were probably trying to perfect your work, but more often than not when you finally stepped back, you still weren't happy with all your tinkering.* Explain that sometimes we need to be reminded that for all of our human tinkering, we aren't the authors of creation. We try to write our own stories as though we know better than God, but He is the one controlling the narrative. We can be most in tune with creation if we will just step back and let God do his work. The paradox of real human creativity is that it is not the flexing of our human created will, the imposing of order, the dredging of up of something new out of the depths of our interiority, our creativity is most fully and freely expressed as humans when we, as artists, stand back and let be. We must remember that when we do step back, God is not sedentary. He is constantly at work creating beautiful things in the world, in our lives that are beyond our understanding.

Have the group string the markers from a still object above the paper (this is where the tape should prove helpful). Be sure to rig the markers in such a way that they graze the paper flat on a surface. There shouldn't be any other objects in the way so that the marker can swing like a pendulum. Have participants gently pull back on the markers and let them swing such that gravity does the rest in creating designs on the page.