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| **Saint Simon Catholic Parish Lenten Retreat**  **“Keeping Time … Sacred” Tuesday, March 14, 2023**  **Opening Prayer**  **Blessing of Newness of Life**  By John Donohue  Father of all creation  Show us the power of your love  in new and special ways.  Open our hearts and minds to receive your love  and all the ways you want to share it with us.  And allow your love to flow through us to others,  so that by knowing us  they may come to know you and your love a little bit more.  We pray this through Christ, our Lord.  Amen. | **Closing Prayer**  **Deeply Grateful**  By Edwina Gately  Growing Into God  When I stopped waiting  and only sat,  breathing gently, steadily,  lost simply  in the flow of air...  Ah, then,  you tumbled, God,  like an avalanche  fast falling  within me,  gathering self-energized force,  unexpected, unrequested,  but suffusing and possessing all— leaving me  stunned,  stilled,  and deeply grateful. |