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Opening Image Essay

Olga Rozenbaum

Stefania Cosentino

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April 2020. When the pandemic struck in March 2020, everything was closed, including public gardens, parks, and even playgrounds. Children weren't allowed to play outside with their friends. Chicagoland started to resemble a post-apocalyptic world. DePaul students, faculty, and alumni with children were trapped in their homes, some in their tiny city apartments, and some in suburbs all over Chicagoland. The yellow crime-scene tape around the playground screamed "horror movie" to me. Police cars were circling the parks and neighborhoods, the officers not allowed to leave the safety of their vehicles. I kept imagining mayhem breaking out, but that didn't happen. People stood together in the face of a common threat: COVID-19. This picture was taken with my iPhone on a walk through the deserted streets.

Photo and brief essay courtesy of Olga Rozenbaum



At heart, our Tree of Wisdom, and a reminder that as a university community DePaul stands together through the pandemic. Created and photographed by Stefania Cosentino in a hand-lettering workshop sponsored by the DePaul University Alumni Association.

Photo courtesy of Stefania Cosentino