

Blaise Pascal said, "All of humanity's problems stem from man's inability to sit quietly in a room alone." This Pascalian "mot" has come to my mind a good deal in recent days as our entire country goes into shutdown mode due to the coronavirus. Perhaps we could all think of this time of semi-quarantine as an invitation to some monastic introspection, some serious confrontation with the questions that matter—some purposeful sitting alone in a room.