

Reflection Saturday Week 2 – 2021

It is refreshing to listen to Hebrews speak of Christ replacing the former temple both in spirit and in body. Just think that this same Christ has chosen to make his abode within each of us. This realisation is mind blowing. We are temples of God, temples of the Holy Spirit, temples of Christ. As St Paul said: (1 Cor 3:16-17) *Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.*

John O'Donohue puts it like this:

“May you keep faith with your body and learn to see it as a holy sanctuary.” As long as we live in the bodies we have (and not the bodies we want to have or someday will have), we will sometimes drink the cup of suffering or decay. We will have circles under our eyes and crooked teeth and love handles and aching muscles and unmet desires. We will have literal itches that need to be scratched and hands that need moisturizer and faces that need to be washed — all by our own hands. Many of us will have strength in our muscles, light in our eyes, mobility to work and explore, and bodies that keep on working for our good — all things we recognize as we touch them with our own hands. We are temples, but not the perfect ornate ones we imagine them to be or want them to be. Our temples are earthly tents, and we get wet when it rains or hot when the temperatures are high or cold when it snows. We are subject to the elements of living on earth. But these tents aren't our home. These biological itches are not the end of us, or the beginning. We're on the way to glory, and our bodies are coming with us, but better, more perfect than we can imagine.

- **I was on a camping trip** when the coronavirus outbreak was announced. To try to stop the spread, we stayed in our tents all day. I guess you could say, *the camping trip was **in tents***.
- You can never **run** through a campground, you can only **ran**. Why? Because it's **past tents**.