

Reflection Tuesday Week 17 - 2021

“Anyone who had to consult the Lord would go out to the Tent of Meeting.” Where is the tent of meeting today? If you look around you, you will notice that our church is shaped like a tent with its beams and hawsers holding up the roof and walls. The tabernacle, in which we store the consecrated bread, is also shaped like a tent. So, we, too, come to the *tent of meeting* to converse with the Lord. We know that the word of God is written in our hearts and we come here to find out how these words can help and inspire us in living the good news. Another important tent is, of course, ourselves. In baptism, we become temples of the Spirit, temples of God, a tent of meeting. God lives in our hearts where the word of God is written.

Moses wrote ten words from which the 10 commandments were formed. It would be good to think that those original ten words were ideals by which to live. Ideals that would continually invite and encourage us to do more, rather than spend all our time trying to avoid disobeying them.

The natural world has always been a tent of meeting, a place to encounter God.

Bill Gaultiere: A primary way God nourishes our souls with his loving presence is through the beauty of nature. The face of the Lord shines on us in the sun. The moon and stars remind us that God’s light and love shine even in the dark. In the bible the joy of the Lord comes to us in splashing waves and playful animals! (Ps29) The Lord communicates with us through the skies, ocean waves, breeze rustling through the trees, fields and flowers, and birds that sing cheerfully. Jesus reassures us that our Father cares for the sparrow and for us (Mtt 6 & 10). Nature reveals to us God’s beauty, glory, power, wisdom, presence, creativity, and, most of all, his loving care. This is why we’re drawn to spend time in the beauty of nature and to enjoy animals. Jesus continually uses nature in his parables that invite us to find life with him in the Kingdom of God.

- **I'm amazed at the wonders of nature and how in tune they are with the Earth. For example, when ducks fly in V-formation, do you know why one side is often longer than the other?** It's because that side has more ducks in it.