

Reflection Saturday 7th Week Easter 2022

Acts finishes with the knowledge that Paul, exiled to Rome, continues to preach the Gospel. It is an invitation. As this chapter comes to a close a door opens for us to continue the good work begun by this great preacher. Throughout the Acts of the Apostles, it is made very clear that the Holy Spirit was guiding and encouraging Paul and the other apostles in their work. The same Spirit, who comes to renew the presence of God within us tomorrow, will be working to enable us also to preach and to be Good News. We have no excuses.

As we come to the close of the Gospel of John, Jesus has reminded us time and again that the love of God lives and thrives within us who believe and are the beloved friends of Jesus. The Spirit comes to renew that presence and that love within us. The Spirit will revitalise our energy, encourage us, guide and help us fulfil our mission in spreading the Kingdom, the Reign of God in people's hearts and lives.

Remembering that we are temples of God (baptism), Macrina Wiederkehr osb offers us the following prayer (slightly adapted):

O God beyond all names, I want to encounter the unfathomable poem that you are. O Holy Spirit, you have pitched a tent in my heart. You are my shelter, my tree of life. You are my cave, my haven, my abode. You are the sanctuary where I dwell. I am the sanctuary where you dwell. I do not ask you to free me from the storms of life that assist my growth. I ask only that you protect me and help me make wise choices. O let it be!

Some men were sitting behind a couple of nuns at a baseball game (with their habits partially blocking the view). The men decided to badger the nuns in an effort to get them to move.

In a very loud voice, the first chap said, *"I think I'm going to move to Utah; there are only 100 nuns there."*

The second chap spoke up and said, *"I want to go to Montana, there are only 50 nuns there."*

The third Chap said, *"I want to go to Idaho, there are only 25 nuns there."*

One of the nuns turned round, looked at the men, and in a very sweet calm voice said, *"Why don't you go to hell..... there aren't any nuns there."*