



Prayer Poems

Poetic Reflections for Sundays and Feastsdays
by Sister Juliemarie McDonald, SND

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Tent Dwellers

by SR. JULIEMARIE MCDONALD, SND on [03/13/2014](#)
in [LENT](#)

Second Sunday of Lent–Lent
March 16, 2014

“Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here...”
(Matthew 17:4a)

Tent Dwellers

Peter, do you remember the overwhelming moment on Mount Tabor?
You made your “three tents” suggestion to Jesus.
Remember? You had just experienced the Transfiguration of Jesus.
You, James and John were so frightened you prostrated on the ground.
All of you, not only saw, but heard a voice say,

“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” (Matthew 17:5b)

Jesus’ actions spoke louder than his words telling you not to be afraid.
He didn’t listen to your suggestion, Peter.
You see Jesus was not a tent dweller but an itinerant preacher and teacher.
He left the serene and safety solitude of the mountain top.

About Sr. Juliemarie McDonald, SND

Sister Juliemarie McDonald joined the Sisters of Notre Dame of Chardon, Ohio in 1951. She holds an MA in English Studies from John Carroll University MA in Scripture from St. Charles Seminary. After 32 years of teaching classes ranging from first grade to college level, she then became a researcher, campus minister, director of religious education and a pastoral minister in Mease Hospital in Dunedin, Florida. In her semi-retirement, Sister Juliemarie writes reflections and faith sharing sessions for the young sisters in formation in Africa, Philippines, Korea, India and the USA. Her spare time is spent as a crafter.



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All of us best listen to not only his words, but watch closely to what Jesus does. An old adage states, "What goes up, must come down!"

During the Lenten season we, too, need to leave any respite we have taken. After our own mountain top experiences, vacations, retreats and prayer times, We must go back to the daily grind of daily life.

As Christian followers or as people of God, we have a mission of teaching and preaching.

St. Francis told his followers, "If you must, use words."

Just remember, your actions of fasting, praying, and almsgiving shout the message. You don't need to "blow your own horn."

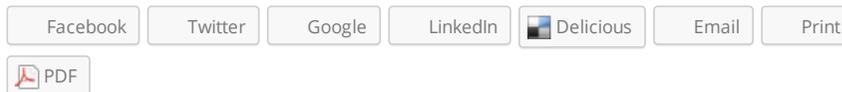
God sees and rewards.

The message of the gospel seems to be no "tent dwellers" this Lent!

For Reflection and Sharing:

1. Why did Jesus take only a chosen few to see his Transfiguration?
2. How do St. Francis and Pope Francis show intimacy with Jesus?
3. Which Spiritual or Corporal Work of Mercy is part of your Lenten journey?
4. Why do we cling to mountain top experiences?
5. Is there any other encounter with Jesus that shows Peter weak in faith and understanding?
6. How does Peter's life, human as it is, with all his faults and failures show how God's mercy and love abound in his and our lives?

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Sister Mary Helen Chasar March 13, 2014 at 10:25 am



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Dear Sister Juliemarie,
Thank you for the inspirational poem. I am making every effort to seek a more intimate relationship with Jesus, Whose love is everlasting. Let's pray for each other during our Lenten Journey. God bless you, dear Sister.

REPLY

Sr. Juliemarie McDonald, SND March 16, 2014 at 9:15 pm



I certainly do pray for you and all our Sisters that our journey in Lent is gracefilled. Sr.Jm

REPLY

Sr. Kathleen Tobin March 13, 2014 at 8:12 pm



Very nice and thoughtful. Thank you!

REPLY

Sr. Juliemarie McDonald, SND March 16, 2014 at 9:14 pm



Thanks Kathleen. I tried responding with an e-mail, but it did not take. I appreciate your comments each week. Sr. Jm

REPLY

Sr. Juliemarie McDonald, SND April 30, 2014 at 11:30 am



Glad you like it and that it made you think, Kathleen. Love, Jm

REPLY

Deb carlin March 16, 2014 at 9:05 am



From infinite spheres he pitched his tent among us
Infintismal with quantum power of the Father's love
Thanks Julie

REPLY

Sr. Juliemarie McDonald, SND April 30, 2014 at 11:29 am

Deb, thanks for the very poetic reply. Loved it. Jm



REPLY

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GOD'S GOODNESS AND PROVIDENT CARE.

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