

Homily: Nov 8, 2025 by Mother Alice Bradley

### You Are the Temple of God

Saint Paul reminds us that *“you are God’s temple”* (1 Cor 3:9).

Each of us is created in the image of God

and invited to become holy temples

of the living God, in whose image we are made.

“Today’s feast also calls us to unity and communion.

We called to be builders of unity in a divided world.

We are meant to be a sign of reconciliation,

a sign of the new humanity brought by Christ—

a family of peoples reconciled in love and solidarity.

In our time, when indifference and enmity

often separate people and countries,

we must continue to build bridges

of dialogue, understanding, and peace.”

Source: - Liturgy Alive: Reflection taken from Bible Diary 2022; written by Fr.Paulson Velyannoor, CMF

As our world is struggling so

in these difficult days of division,

poverty, racism, sexism, genderism,

run amuck - waiting to be driven out of the

the temple of our world.

As followers of Jesus,

we are each called to be

Temples of Tenderness,

Cathedrals of Care

Sanctuaries of Safety and Peace as we

Stand strongly in the face of injustice.

And we do work and pray hard for all

this to happen.

And as Temples of the Divine,

we must remain connected to our Source,  
Our Creator, the Holy One who made us in her Image  
and who calls us each by name.

*Buddhist meditation teacher and author Tara Brach describes our true nature as “loving awareness”: She says:*

Increasingly over the years,  
my trust in this loving awareness  
as the essence of who we all are  
has become a guiding light.  
No matter how wrong or lacking we may feel,  
how caught in separation,  
or how trapped by inequities of the society we live in,  
this basic goodness remains the essence of our Being.  
...A beautiful story holds within it this truth:  
During the mid-1950s in Bangkok,  
Thailand, a huge clay statue of the Buddha  
began to crack due to heat and drought.  
When some monks arrived to investigate,  
they shined a flashlight into the largest of the cracks.  
What they saw surprised everyone.  
Deep under the gray clay was the gleam of gold.  
No one had known that inside this popular  
but ordinary-looking statue  
was a solid-gold Buddha.  
As it turns out,  
the statue had been covered with plaster and clay  
six hundred years earlier to protect it from invading armies.  
Although all the monks who lived in the monastery at that time  
had been killed in the attack, the golden Buddha,  
its beauty and value covered over,  
had survived untouched.

Just as the monks disguised the beauty of the golden Buddha  
in order to protect it during dangerous times,  
we can cover our own innate purity and goodness  
as we encounter a challenging world—to protect them just as the Monks  
protected the golden statue with mud to protect it from the invaders.  
We cover over the gold  
as we seek the approval of others,  
looking to them to measure our worth  
—to determine whether we are good enough,  
smart enough, successful enough.  
Yet even when we cannot see the gold,  
the light and love of our true nature  
cannot be dimmed, tarnished, or erased.  
It calls to us daily through our longing for connection,  
our urge to understand reality,  
our delight in beauty,  
our natural desire to help others.  
Our deepest intuition is that there is  
something beyond our habitual story  
of a separate and isolated self:  
something vast, mysterious, and sacred....  
Even though the gold of your true nature  
can get buried beneath fear, uncertainty, and confusion,  
the more you trust this loving presence as the truth of who you are,  
the more fully you will call it forth  
in yourself and in all those you touch.  
And in our communities,  
as we humans increasingly remember that gold,  
we'll treat each other and all beings with a growing reverence and  
**love.** Tara Brach, *Trusting the Gold: Uncovering Your Natural Goodness* (Boulder, CO: Sounds True,  
2021), 2–3, 5.

And so, I would like you to close your eyes, breathe deeply and hear Jesus speak to you....

Breathe deeply and hear Jesus speak...

Today, as you come together as one,  
consuming my own body and blood in the Eucharist,  
...I see you. You are building my church,  
readying yourselves in this time and place for my kin-dom.  
You shine my light out into the world.  
You are my Beloved, in whom I am well pleased.”  
My Spirit is alive and flourishing among you.  
Rekindle and renew your love for me.  
I see every struggle,  
capture every tear and hear every prayer.  
Turn to me,  
know I am present with you and in you.  
Though your eyes cannot fully see now,  
nor your heart fully comprehend the depth of my love  
...one day you will come to see the lovely edifice  
you have labored to build.  
Know, that I have seen all the effort you give,  
to know me, to learn from me,  
to hear my voice and live my presence into this world.  
I see every loving effort you put forth.  
Your labor is not in vain.  
You are creating a work of great love.  
It is holy and blessed and my Real Presence  
is here with you now in this time and this place.

I am Present with you now  
and go with you and in you as you depart.  
My love for you is so great it cannot be contained.  
I will never leave you.  
Do not be afraid,  
I am with you.  
Peace be with you,  
remain on in my love.

“Let us ask the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
the dwelling place of God’s Word,  
to help us be living temples of His love.

May our lives radiate Christ’s presence. AMEN” Source: - [Liturgy Alive: Reflection](#)  
*taken from Bible Diary 2022; written by Fr.Paulson Velyannoor, CMF*