

## Scripture Passages

- 1 Corinthians 12:12-20—Many Parts but One Body
- Ephesians 4: 11-16—Diversity of Gifts
- Galatians 3:26-29—Clothed in Christ
- Matthew 18:18-20—Forgiveness brings unity

## St. Simon Parish Second Mountain Retreat -- Session 7 --



## FOR A NEW BEGINNING

(John O'Donohue)

In out-of-the-way places of the heart,  
Where your thoughts never think to wander,  
This beginning has been quietly forming,  
Waiting until you were ready to emerge.

For a long time it has watched your desire,  
Feeling the emptiness growing inside you,  
Noticing how you willed yourself on,  
Still unable to leave what you had outgrown.

It watched you play with the seduction of safety  
And the gray promises that sameness whispered,  
Heard the waves of turmoil rise and relent,  
Wondered would you always live like this.

Then the delight, when your courage kindled,  
And out you stepped onto new ground,  
Your eyes young again with energy and dream,  
A path of plenitude opening before you.

Though your destination is not yet clear  
You can trust the promise of this opening;  
Unfurl yourself into the grace of beginning  
That is at one with your life's desire.

Awaken your spirit to adventure;  
Hold nothing back, learn to find ease in risk;  
Soon you will be home in a new rhythm,  
For your soul senses the world that awaits you.

## Reflection Questions

- Reflect on the analogy of the jigsaw puzzle. What aspect of this analogy that speaks to you?
- Reflect on the analogy of the Second Mountain. Where are you on this journey? First mountain, second mountain or the valley
- What is the most meaningful positive memory during this pandemic time?
- Write down the story you tell about this time