



A weekly reflection by members  
of the Precious Blood Community

**August 6, 2025**

Tim and Mary Ellen Lehman

“Jesus took Peter, John, and James  
and went up to the mountain to pray.” (Luke 9:28)



We often go through life surrounded by ordinary routines, but occasionally, we're blessed with a mountaintop experience. The difference is usually found in being attentive and open to God's invitations. Discerning and responding to God's call can transform the ordinary into something life-changing.

In 2012, Brother Jerry Schulte invited us to attend a Putnam County Companion gathering. We hoped it wouldn't become just another meeting in our already busy schedules. Instead, something unexpected happened, as those gatherings became the highlight of our month. Our 'yes' seemed ordinary at the time, but it has led to many extraordinary moments in our lives.

Over the years, we've built relationships with other Companions and Community members through retreats, assemblies, and various Precious Blood events. These experiences have strengthened our faith, deepened our relationship with God, and helped us discover the treasures of St. Gaspar and Precious Blood Spirituality.

At the 2023 assembly, we discussed our plans with some Companions and members to attend a Kansas City Royals game, in pursuit of our goal to visit each Major League Baseball stadium. Fr. Michael Volkmer told us about the Renewal Center, the guest house, and nearby St. James Parish. That ordinary conversation led to us staying at the

guest house and attending Masses at both the Renewal Center and St. James. During our stay, we met many people who have since become dear friends. This past June, during a trip to see the Chicago White Sox, we visited PBMR and received a personal tour from Fr. Denny Kinderman. These may seem like ordinary travel experiences, but to us, they were very impactful moments that continue to transform our lives for the better.

In today's gospel, Jesus invited Peter, John, and James up a mountain to pray. What might have seemed like an ordinary invitation turned into a glorious transformation and a glimpse of heaven – something absolutely extraordinary. This is what's possible when we are open to God's invitations. May we always remain attentive to the invitations that God places on our hearts and trust that our "yes" can transform our lives in extraordinary ways.

Tim and Mary Ellen Lehman are Precious Blood Companions and currently serve as the Conveners for the Putnam County Companion group. To learn more about Companions, [click here](#).

This weekly reflection is made available to everyone in our Precious Blood family.

Feel free to share it with others. Would you like to write a reflection?

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