



A weekly reflection by members
of the Precious Blood Community

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Sr. Joyce Kahle, C.P.P.S.

“But my trust is in you, O Lord, I say, 'You are my God.' In your hands is my destiny, rescue me. Save me, O Lord, in your kindness.” (Psalm 31:15-17)



In today's Gospel (Matthew 20:17-28), Jesus had just shared with his disciples that soon he would be handed over to the chief priests, condemned to death, crucified, and would be raised on the third day. I suppose James and John told their mother about this, because the next thing that Matthew writes is that their mom approached Jesus. Jesus asks, “What do you wish?” She had the nerve to ask that her sons have the highest places in heaven next to him. And Jesus responds, “You don't know what you are asking...”

I know what motivated that mother to ask that of Jesus – her love for her kids. Years ago, I had legal custody of three great-nieces for several years. Their mother was unable to care for them. When I was seeking custody, a friend who had several grown children told me, “You don't know what you are asking.” I learned what she meant: that once you're a mom, you're always a mom. Even now, when they are grown, I listen, encourage them, pray for them, want the best for them, and advocate on their behalf.

When I think about the problems in our country today, the violence, the hatred against the immigrants or any “others”, the widening division between the rich and the poor, the denial of global warming, even killing U.S. citizens, and much more, I worry about what kind of country and world we will leave for my nieces and all our children and

grandchildren. Like the mother in the Gospel, I want the best for them. Although we sign petitions, write letters, call and meet with senators and representatives, and participate in protests, I know it isn't enough. I (we) also need to trust that God is with us and will not abandon us in our struggle for justice and peace in our fractured world.

“Save us, O God, in your kindness.”

Sr. Joyce Kahle, CPPS, has been a member of the Sisters of the Precious Blood for over sixty years. She has served the community in many capacities, including service in different ministries internationally. To learn more about the Sisters of the Precious Blood, [click here](#).

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