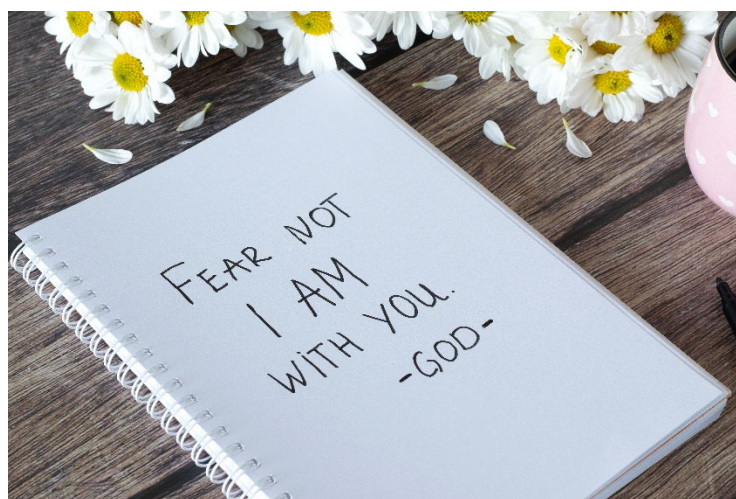


A weekly reflection by members
of the Precious Blood Community

May 21, 2025

Sr. Margaret Washington, ASC

*“May your grace transform us into
tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.”
Pope Francis*



On this thirty-first day of the Easter Season, the readings for today’s Mass invite us to join the pilgrims going up to the house of the Lord, singing with joy! In Acts 15, the ‘good news’ spread quickly that Gentiles had accepted faith in Jesus and the message of eternal salvation. Paul and Barnabas had been successful in their missionary journeys. The Early Followers of Jesus were filled with joy. New Churches were being formed throughout Asia Minor. We learn that one of those Churches was sending Paul and Barnabas to Peter and the Apostles to settle what had become a “dispute” among them. The “dispute” arose from Pharisees who had become converts. They insisted that Gentile converts follow the Law of Moses for circumcision. It is in Chapter 15 that we learn that the Council of Jerusalem brought about the decision that this should not be required. Throughout the Centuries, new questions have arisen, and the Church, like a little boat on a stormy sea, was calmed through the guidance of the Holy Spirit by the Councils that followed.

Then, and now, “*Fear not*,” the voice of our Resurrected Savior drowns out the voice of fear in our world. Gathering around the table of sacrifice, Jesus offers himself to his Father. The Paschal Lamb invites us to share this offering, surrendering ourselves to the Father with him. Eucharist is then given to us by the priest celebrant to become food for our journey. At the close of the Mass, we are sent like Paul and Barnabas to make disciples of all people. Through our gift of Baptism, we are being sent; as Communities of Adoration and Mission dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus, Priests, Consecrated Religious Women and Men, and Lay Companions, we are being sent!

John 15:1-8 *“I am the Vine, my Father is the Vine grower.....Stay with Me. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit unless it is connected to the Vine, neither can you...Those who stay in me and I in them will bear much fruit. Without me, you can do nothing.”* What a graced-vocation we share; to carry Jesus and the Message of Salvation to those who do not know Him. It is a call that brings HOPE and JOY into our world.

“.....May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
When, with the powers of evil vanquished,
Your glory will shine eternally. “

The Jubilee Prayer, Written by Pope Francis

Sr. Margaret Washington, ASC, has been a vowed member of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ for over seventy years. She has served the community in many capacities, most recently as the Chaplain for NACC. To learn more about the Adorers of the Blood of Christ, [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?

If so, please contact Vicky Otto at votto@pbspiritualityinstitute.org