

A weekly reflection by members of the Precious Blood Community

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Fr. Dave Kelly, C.PP.S.

"You must follow me." (John 21:22)



Once again, we hear Peter called to follow Jesus. Peter, renowned for all his stumbling and failures, is not only called to follow, but to be the "rock" upon which the church is built. As unworthy as we are, we, too, are called and sent out into the world to be Christ Jesus today.

There is an ancient Japanese art form called *kintsugi* that repairs broken pieces of pottery by filling in the cracks with a special lacquer made from powdered gold. The broken parts and dysfunctions are not disguised but are highlighted and celebrated with golden seams. It's those cracks that give the repaired pottery its unique character and quality.

It's precisely in our brokenness where God calls us to be healers.

Many of the staff of the Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation have been incarcerated for decades. As they tell their story, including their brokenness, that they have a powerful impact to both young and old. While they admit the harm they have done, they don't allow it to define who they are as persons. They use their experience to be healers of others.

As we count our own blessings, let's remember that sometimes the broken places in our lives can be a lifeline to someone else.

Fr. Dave Kelly, C.PP.S., is a member of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood and is one of the founders of the Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation. To learn more about the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, <u>click here</u>. To learn more about the Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation, <u>click here</u>.