

October Reflection
Spirituality of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood, O'Fallon
May We Be For Others Who We Are For One Another

Our 2016 Chapter statement gives focus to our spirituality as we move into the future. In gratitude and impelled by the Gospel we called ourselves to contemplative living, global awareness, deepened relationships among Sisters and Partners under the umbrella of reconciliation. We committed to taking a BOLD ACTION that would help to set our hearts on fire. What could it be?

In the face of a growing median age, unexpected deaths of active elders and younger members, we sought to make a difference in our suffering world. We struggled with a national political administration that seemed disconnected to the poor. What could we do when we had so few sisters in active ministry?

In October of 2017, we chose immigration to focus and shape our bold action and to deepen our relationships with one another, God and the world. How is our BOLD ACTION unfolding? These are some of the things I see:

We are reaching out to connect with local and national groups working for comprehensive immigration reform, paying attention to national and local organizations working directly with immigrants and refugees in the United States especially in St. Louis. We are making efforts to educate ourselves about the situations of immigrants and refugees coming into our country by inviting speakers to our community meetings and volunteering at agencies that reach out. These efforts and our own study make us more aware of the world crisis with millions of persons displaced by war, climate change and increased natural disasters. We continue to support sisters still active in ministry who are working directly with migrants, immigrants and refugees. We invite our Partners in Mission to share in our works and prayers recognizing the call to be a reconciling presence to our broken world.

For we believe that we are still called to be a reconciling presence within the midst of our suffering world. We still have voices to speak out, minds and hands to write letters, time to make phone calls to government leaders, and hearts that are faithful to daily prayer.

While we believe in the power of prayer, it is sometimes difficult to believe that prayer might be all one can do. We enter that vulnerable state of unknowing, not able to see

or feel what difference we are making. Sometimes we can only offer our faith, our hope, our love.

Whether at Eucharist or during moments of sitting quietly in prayer we engage in active contemplation, becoming bread and wine blessed, broken and shared in quiet acts of kindness to one another. We become the Body of Christ willing to welcome the strangers among us, to speak truth to power and walk gently upon the earth. And we pray that as we are transformed so we can be catalysts of transformation for our suffering world.

Sr. Lucy Meissen

To learn more about the O'Fallon Precious Blood Chapter statement and Bold Action, visit www.cpps-ofallon.org in the Immigrants & Refugee tab.