



A weekly reflection by members  
of the Precious Blood Community

**July 3, 2024**

Vicky Otto

“Put your finger here and see my hands,  
and bring your hand and put it into my side,  
and do not be unbelieving but believe (John 20:27)

Thank you for joining us for our anniversary! A year ago, we began a new project that was conceptualized by the Communications team of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ. They dreamt of offering a moment in the week to share our Precious Blood spirituality with the world. “Wednesday Whispers” became a weekly email that was sent to people across the country who, in turn, shared it in their circles. I’m grateful that they entrusted the Precious Blood Spirituality Institute to help bring that dream to life. We had no idea what kind of response we would get to these reflections. Thank you for your enthusiastic response to this dream and for continuing with us as we begin year two! The response to the project was amazing. Readers have shared that the email was a moment of lightness during the week where often they were weary from the heaviness of our world today. On behalf of the team, I thank all of you who embraced this “moment” and shared it with others.

As I was reflecting upon the readings for today, I first must disclose that I am a great admirer of Thomas. Thomas’s curiosity helps us learn important lessons. In our scripture reading today he reminds us that wounds are important. We need to acknowledge our own wounds and we need to honor the wounds of those around us. The challenge is that we don’t want to acknowledge our brokenness. As a Precious Blood family, our spirituality calls us to remember our own wounds and to reach out to those wounded in our world. In his book, *“Touch the Wounds – On Suffering, Trust, and Transformation,”* Tomas Halik writes, “He (Jesus) shows us his wounds and gives us the courage not to conceal our own; we are permitted our own wounds.” Halik continues to share the importance of touching the wounds. He writes, “It is where you touch human suffering, and maybe only there, that you will realize that I am alive, that ‘it’s me.’ You will meet me wherever people suffer. Do not shy away from me in any of those meetings. Don’t be afraid. Do not be unbelieving but believe.”

We can't see the wounds people carry. But we all carry them. Rather than keeping them in hiding or feeling shamed by them, I offer you another alternative this week in honor of Thomas. May we take a step in faith and recognize our wounds and the wounds of others. Then, we can come together in our brokenness and bring to life the kingdom of God through the wounds of Christ Jesus.

*Vicky Otto is a Companion with the Missionaries of the Precious Blood and currently serves as the Executive Director of the Precious Blood Spirituality Institute. To learn more about the Institute visit: [pbspiritualityinstitute.org](http://pbspiritualityinstitute.org).*

This weekly reflection is made available to all who are part of our Precious Blood family. Feel free to share it with others. Would you be willing to write a reflection? If so, please contact Vicky Otto at [votto@pbspiritualityinstitute.org](mailto:votto@pbspiritualityinstitute.org)