

## Social Justice Reflection

### This is Why:

Lord of Life,  
They ask me why I stop and pray  
And why I begin my prayers with thanks  
In a world fraught with pain and loss,  
With cruelty and injustice.

Sometimes I ask myself this too.  
And then I look again  
And gratitude fills my heart anew.

Because when someone is hungry,  
Another is dividing their portion.

When someone is thirsty,  
Someone is digging a well.

When someone is asking questions,  
Another is opening a book  
And teaching answers.

When someone is lost,  
Another is searching.

Because when someone is cursed,  
Another is blessing.

When somebody is sick,  
Another is giving health care.

When someone has been driven from their home,  
Another is making room.

When someone has despaired of all hope,  
Another struggles on for them.

Because when disaster strikes,  
And people flee,  
Somebody else, against all sense,  
Is running toward the danger.

To reach out a hand,  
To reach out Your saving hand,  
To an absolute stranger.

And when somebody dies,  
Somebody else stops to pray  
And then makes a home for the orphan.

It's as confounding as it is beautiful.

In this darkened world,  
Where the face of God is veiled  
In the midst of calamities,  
When all instinct speaks of  
Self-preservation.

Somebody still cares for the other.  
And miracles of compassion abound.

This is why I am grateful.  
AMEN

### Something concrete you can do this week:

Write a letter to Congress to make “funding decisions” that enable people to feed their families. Bread for the World is an international organization that promotes life choices for all. If you would like to contact them for sample letters or more information, contact [www.bread.org/ol](http://www.bread.org/ol).

This material came from the March issue of the Good News from the Seattle Archdiocese Mission Office.

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I discovered this prayer poem in the  
“Good News from the Missions Office”

