Cantor/Unison/Congregation and Keyboard

Text and Music by RALPH C. VERDI, C.PP.S.

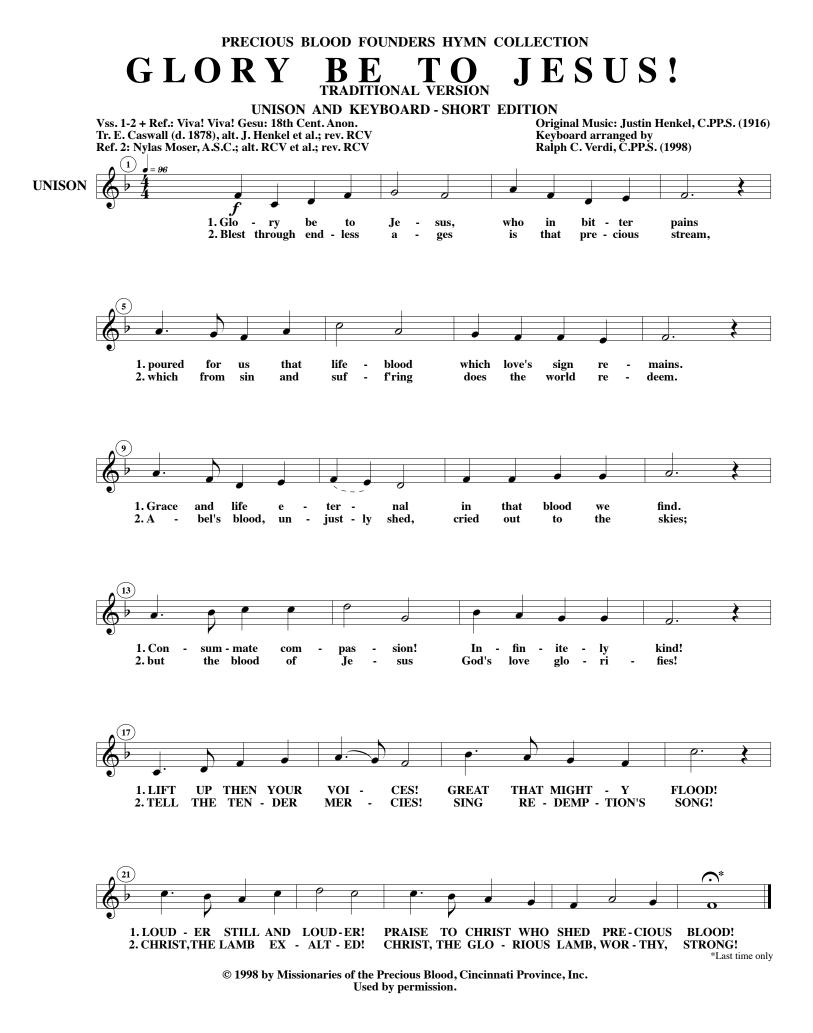
The *Precious Blood Founders Hymn Collection* is a worship resource for member communities of the Precious Blood Leadership Conference, an affiliation of Roman Catholic religious communities dedicated to the spreading of the Christian Gospel and founded upon common devotion to Jesus Christ under the aspect of the shedding of his Most Precious Blood.

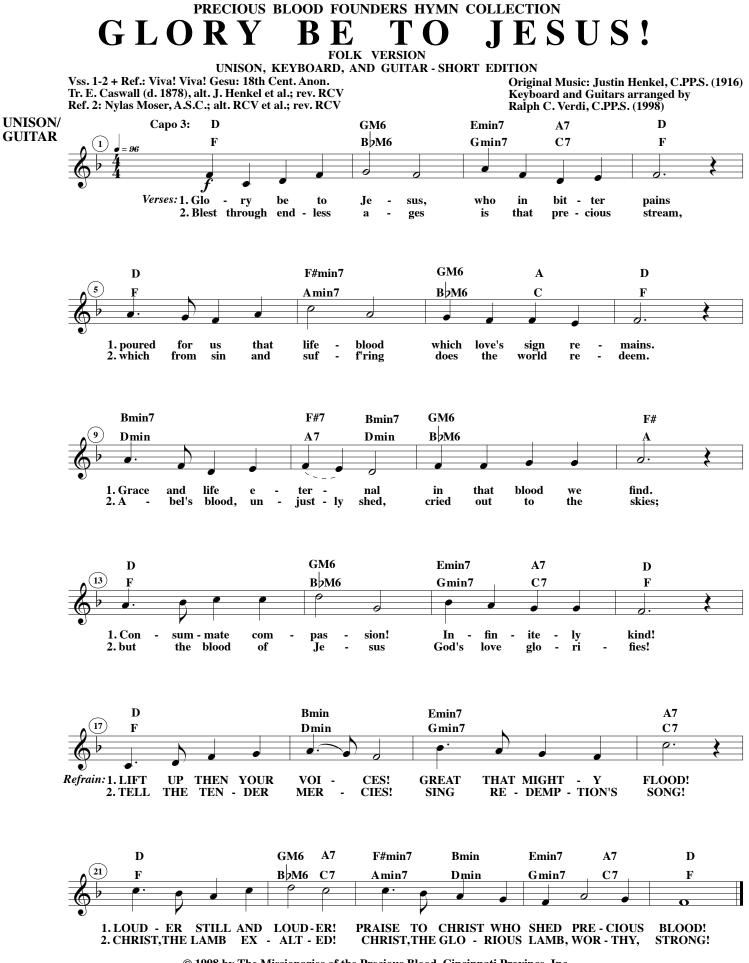
The hymns contained herein are not meant to replace already well established hymns to be found in the various member Precious Blood families. Rather, they are offered as an additional worship resource to better promote unity and awareness among those member families; to provide additional insight into the unique spiritual heritage to be found in each Precious Blood community as imparted by its founder; and to promote faith and devotion to Jesus Christ under the aspect of his Most Precious Blood.

In addition to *Glory Be to Jesus!*, a Precious Blood hymn addressed directly to Christ, and *Many the Voices*, a Precious Blood hymn containing a verse from each of the founders of the member communities, a new hymn to each founder and based on their own words and/or traditions is included. This will allow all to benefit from the unique spiritual insights imparted by each founder.

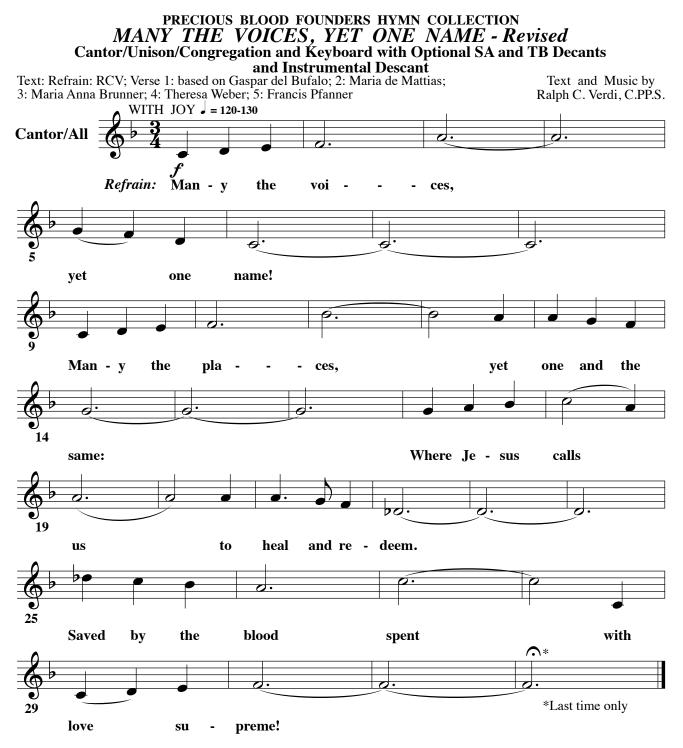
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Rev. Ralph C. Verdi, C.PP.S., Ph.D. Missionary of the Precious Blood Cincinnati Province Composer and Editor March 10, 2010





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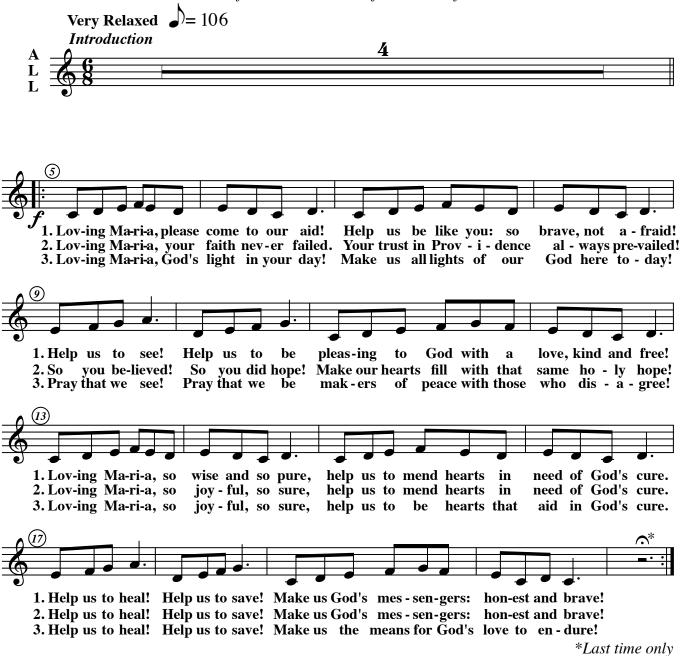
VERSES (Cantor/Unison):

- **1.** O for a thousand tongues to praise the price poured out in Christ's blood! We cannot, we must not, we will not be silent about the great love of our God! (*Refrain*)
- 2. Praise the Providence of our God that filled our needs in the past! God still provides, and will provide for all that is yet to come! (*Refrain*)
- 3. Fill your hearts with the love of Christ! Shed blood's the sign of God's love! Now fill your hands with gifts for God's poor: of such is the Kingdom of God! (*Refrain*)
- 4. Precious as the blood of Christ, so is each soul to our God who fills our hearts with riches from Christ, and supplies for us all of our needs! (*Refrain*)
- 5. Flame of your zeal, let it soar for God who's honored by unbounded trust!
 To love, and serve the One who loved us so much that he died for us all! (*Refrain*)

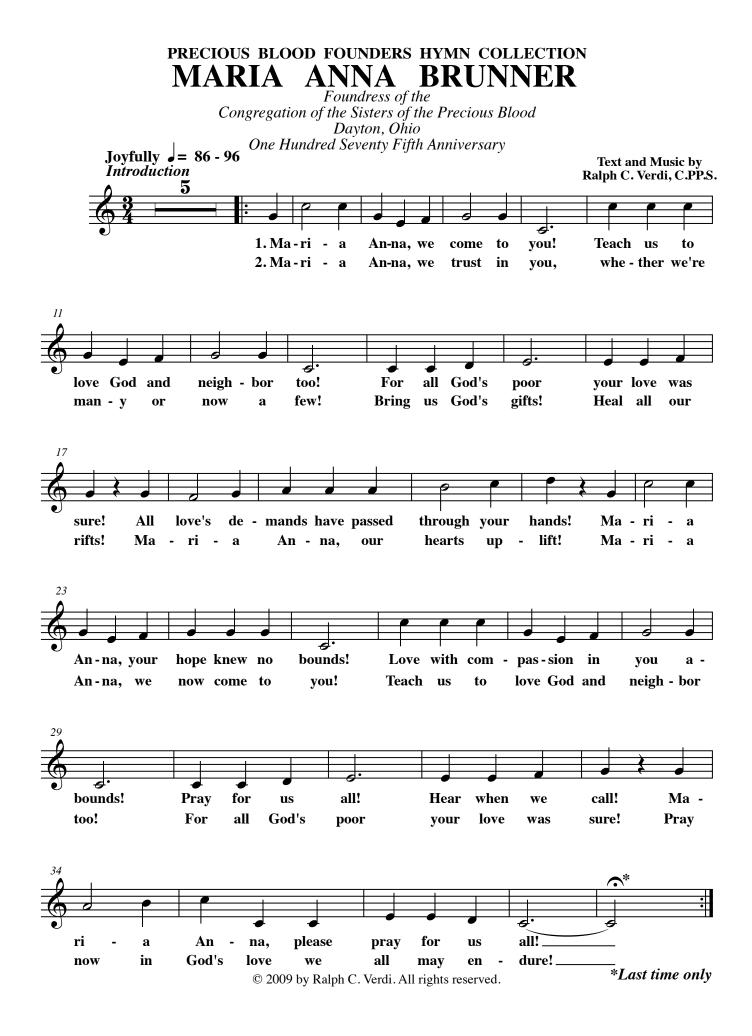
PRECIOUS BLOOD FOUNDERS HYMN COLLECTION Loving Maria!

(Revised) In Honor of St. Maria de Mattias Founder of the Sister Adorers of the Blood of Christ

Text and Music by Ralph C. Verdi, C.PP.S.



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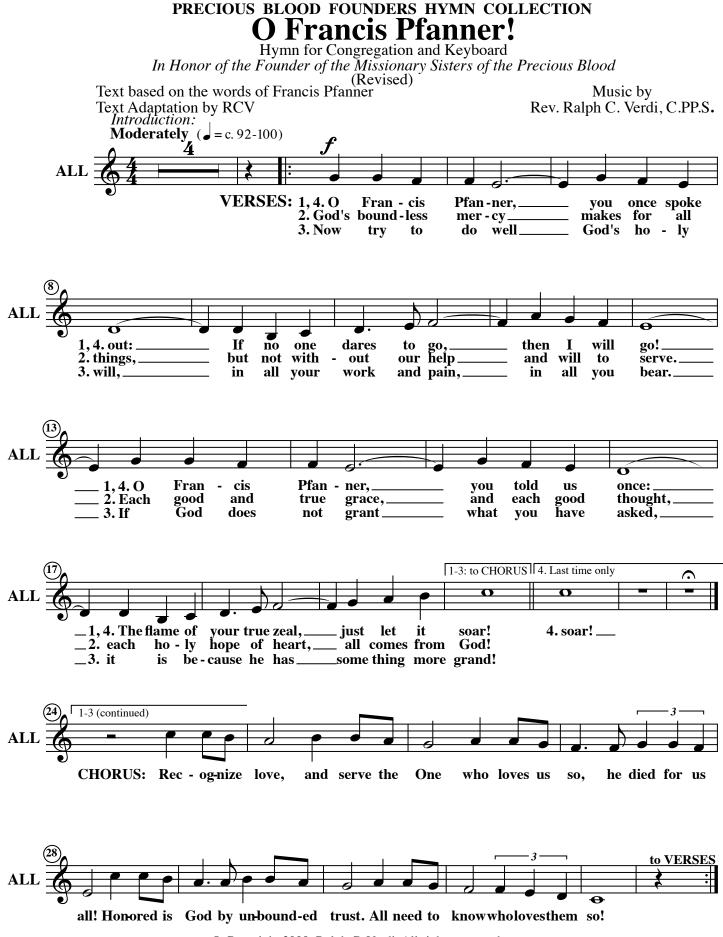
THERESA

In Honor of Theresa Weber Founder of the Sisters of the Precious Blood O'Fallon, Missouri

Text and Music by Ralph C. Verdi, C.PP.S.



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SPIRITUAL PROFILES OF PRECIOUS BLOOD FOUNDERS HYMN COLLECTION HYMNS

GLORY BE TO JESUS!

- Verses 1-2: Prodigality of love and sacrificial suffering is exemplified in the shedding of Christ's Blood in God's plan of redemption. Redemption is expressed in terms of extremes of love, suffering, justice and compassion over the expanse of time and eternity.
- Verses 3-6: Restoration, salvation, thanksgiving, praise, reconciliation, and the festive march of the saved are the results of God's plan of salvation in action.

MANY THE VOICES, YET ONE NAME

- Refrain: Emphasizes unity and universality of God's salvation.
- Verse 1: Call to apostolic action based on the Word and message of God's love for all.
- Verse 2: Pleromic Providence: the providence of God includes the needs of everyone everywhere.
- Verse 3: Charity: Christ's Blood is the great sign of love outpoured which leads to love of God and neighbor in deeds of love.
- Verse 4: The exalted dignity and value of the person: Christ's Blood outpoured reveals the great value of each person as a reflection of God. Each person's value is thus beyond estimation.
- Verse 5: Zeal: Christ's death undergone out of love inspires courage in the service of God and neighbor.

LOVING MARIA!

- Verse 1: The witness of a life lived close to God helps us to see spiritually and be pleasing both to God and to humanity.
- Verse 2: Faith and trust in God lead to joy and the healing of troubled hearts.
- Verse 3: Godly example of life helps heal strife and estrangements.

SPIRITUAL PROFILES OF PRECIOUS BLOOD FOUNDERS HYMN COLLECTION HYMNS (continued)

MARIA ANNA BRUNNER

- Verse 1: Love of God and neighbor, especially the poor and disadvantaged, inspires compassion and the prayer of intercession in and for all.
- Verse 2: Compassion heals relationships and helps love to endure.

SAINT GASPAR

- Verse 1: Preaching of and Witness to God's Word inspires bravery in the face of opposition and leads to reconciliation with those who are estranged.
- Verse 2: Preaching of God's Word leads to hope, healing, justice and peace.

THERESA

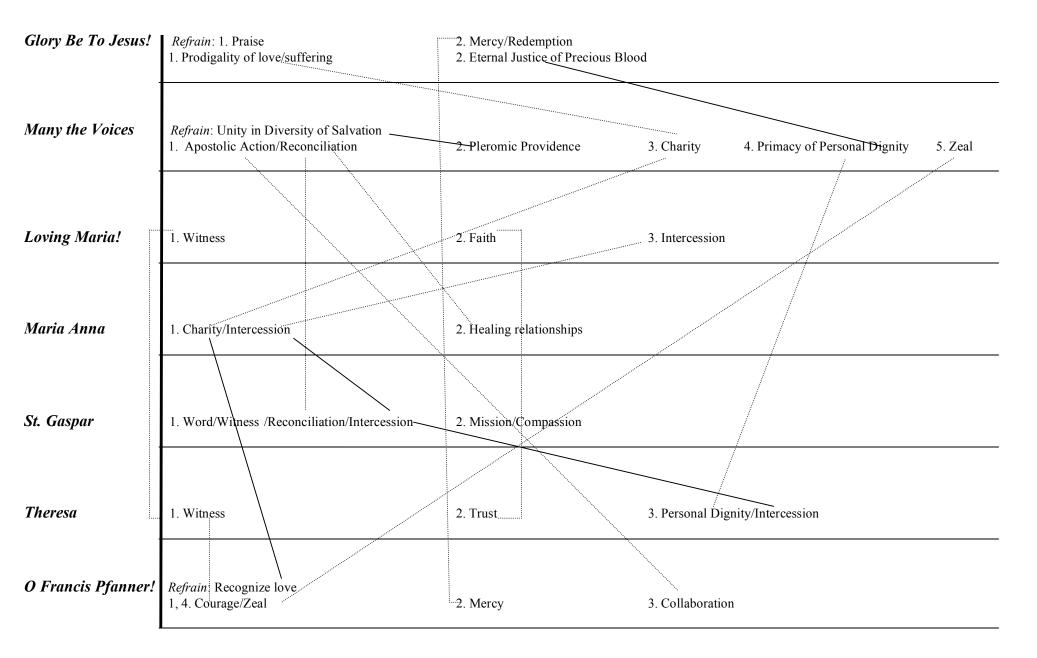
- Verse 1: Faith in God leads to blessings for others.
- Verse 2: Trust in God leads to fulfillment of needs and intercession for others.
- Verse 3: The personal dignity and preciousness of each person is indicated by the price of Christ's Precious Blood outpoured.

O FRANCIS PFANNER!

- Refrain: Recognition of God's love leads to service and honor of God, and trust in God.
- Verses 1&4: Love leads to courage and bravery in the service of God.
- Verse 2: The mercy of God embraces and includes our work and cooperation.
- Verse 3: Collaboration and suffering in the work of God leads to unexpected greater outcomes by God's design.

COMPARISON CHART OF PRECIOUS BLOOD FOUNDERS HYMN COLLECTION TEXTS

(Numbers refer to verses of the hymn)



IMPLICATIONS FOR A DEVOTIONAL THEOLOGY OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD IN PRECIOUS BLOOD FOUNDERS HYMNS

1. COMMON CONNECTIONS AND INTER-COMMUNITY IDENTITY

Hymn texts reveal common foundational points of spiritual identity among the families of the PB (see chart). These common foundational points could help to motivate more focused reflection on identity and faith practice (praxis) among PB families in advancing the Kingdom of Christ.

2. COLLABORATION IN APOSTOLATES

Further reflection on hymn texts could enliven the distinctiveness of the Founders' charisms and help foster specific action in common apostolates on the individual, corporate, and inter-community levels.

3. COMMON DEVOTIONS

These hymns add to (not replace) previous hymns, and can help on days of regular, common congregational, and inter-congregational occasions and publications.

4. VOCATIONAL EFFORTS

Hymn texts might provide a motivation for the generation of common/specific vocational art and literature based on the various themes/motifs.

5. CONFERENCES ON PRECIOUS BLOOD SPIRITUALITY IN THE ARTS These conferences would *focus primarily on theology in action ---*artistic and creative works and rituals---*art, music, poetry, sculpture, drama and theatre,* and not duplicate or compete with PB Convocations on reflective theology.

INFORMATION

If you are interested in acquiring *The Precious Blood Founders Hymn Collection*, or the Convocation theme song, *Who Will Speak the Word*?, please go to:

www.preciousbloodspirituality.org

Recordings and scores are available for free downloading at that website which is the spirituality website of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, Cincinnati Province. Additions will be added in the future. Please continue to check that site for new additions to resources.