

## Prayer for Families at the Border

In our tragic, terrible new version of Scripture,  
We see the sacrifice of the Holy Innocents  
To feed the mad hunger of power  
Determined to assert itself over  
The threat of a reign of love Incarnated.

Christ, we ask you to guide us  
Through this nightmare at the border,  
We ask you to strengthen our voices,  
To give us the courage to speak out strongly  
In this shameful historical moment  
When children are pawns  
And your commandment to love the neighbor,  
Your challenge to welcome the stranger  
Are so easily dismissed by those who use your name.

Christ, we ask you to ground us in your inclusive love,  
So we may stand firmly against the abusive actions  
That tear families apart and warehouse children  
Sick with fear and longing in a hostile land.  
May we speak out and stand up to end the suffering  
Of your beloved little ones, so they may once again  
Know the embrace that is their sacred birthright. Amen.

—Jane Deren, Ph.D.

