A mother's love and a mother's pain Often mix together again and again. It's not really easy to maintain her inner calm When a child literally calls up feelings that arise in Herself and in all who disapprovingly watch Ready to criticize whatever she does.

Our mothers, yes, our mothers, whether due to lack of experience or energy Must cope with a child so demanding that nothing short of Divine Intervention Is worth even a mention in coping with children who enjoy pushing their Mom's as far as they can.

The truth is that many of us would not have survived childhood Had it not been for our mothers. Even so, our mothers are ever so human. They are expected, however, to be sinless, patient and perfect. Beautiful, well-dressed and always ready to help with school, husband and Save on the meagerest of budgets. Work outside the home as well, and never Complain no matter how tired?

Yes, mothers are tasked with the seemingly impossible to ask.

They must keep a firm but loving hand on each boy and each lass

Close enough to guide them without too tight a grasp.

To the One who loves us child and adult at each bump in the road

On the path to the One who loves person no matter their class.

Some really believes that her life is a platter

Upon which each person can dump any problem or whatever else may matter. She is expected to fix, comfort or otherwise cope no matter how her day or week has been shattered.

No Mom will ever be perfect any more than a Dad. She does well to stay close to God, for God is the only One who is perfect enough to understand her situation. The rest of us do well to be quiet when a mother is trying to prevent a riot Breaking out at McDonalds, Costco, or anywhere else where her kids see food or a toy and scream "I want it. Now buy it!"

A mother has to master the nearly simultaneous roles of being the tenderest of sources of love for the forest of expectations that grow up around her while Fighting off multiple dangers that threaten her children like drugs, alcohol and Anything else that threatens her children or others she loves.

What can be done to help her to cope? For starters we men cans stop acting like We don't know what is the matter when we hear a real clatter. We can help with The crisis and then love her and help her in each way that does matter to her.

As always, I welcome your responses.

Rev. Larry LaPierre 12 May 2018

