

Good Friday 2016

"Often one is not aware that the mystery of the provident God can be found in the darkness even in the midst of strife and discord at the deepest level of the human heart."

Myra Rodgers, CDP

When I hear the words "Good Friday", my mind goes to the final events of that day; Jesus is struggling with His cross. The clouds are building and the wind is beginning to gust. As Jesus falls and stumbles, an ominous darkness continues to grow. Deep gray, black, low hanging clouds gather closer; so close that you can nearly touch them. The wind is blowing, now, fiercely. It is a dark and desperate time for humankind. It is a time of insurrection, a time of betrayal by two of Jesus' closest friends, a time when Jesus' countrymen rebuffed His guidance and teachings.

At the darkest moments of this day, Providence appears. She takes the woman's veil to gently wipe and caress Jesus' face. In the darkness, Providence as the Cyrenian, offers her helping hands and strong back to carry the cross to the top of the mount. With the winds gusting, she is the thief affirming that Jesus is Lord. And, at the very moment that the last breath is released from Jesus's lungs, Providence is there as the Father to whom He cried. Then, Providence holds the lifeless body, tenderly cradling Him.

Good Friday is a lesson for each of us. No matter how impenetrable the darkness, Providence is at her closest. She provides the comfort and guidance needed to continue the walk, and, to begin to see the light of Easter.

When have you felt surrounded by darkness and at the same time protected by providence?

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Women of Providence
in Collaboration*