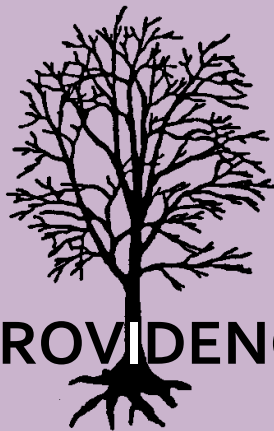




*For unto us a child
is born, to us a son
is given...Isaiah 9:6*



Women of

PROVIDENCE

in Collaboration

“To develop a relevant spirituality of Providence today, we need to look at and reflect newly upon that mystery we call the Mystical Body of Christ.” —Ruth McGoldrick, SP

Jesus Christ is born! Rejoice! We remember the event of the mystery of the Incarnation—Christ among us—and we re-enter and celebrate the experience after an Advent of preparation.

Pope John Paul II in his address on December 18, 2002, said, "The liturgy of Advent...helps us to understand fully the value and meaning of the mystery of Christmas. It is not just about commemorating the historical event, which occurred some 2,000 years ago in a little village of Judea. Instead, it is necessary to understand that the whole of our life must be an 'advent,' a vigilant awaiting of the final coming of Christ."

In our society the celebration of Christmas has become one of hectic motion, spending, decorating, wrapping and thus, frequently missing, or diminishing, the overwhelming gift of God's gift of Christ to us for which we have prepared during this Advent season. But as Catholic Christians and members of the Mystical Body, with Christ as our head, we are united through the mystery of God's grace to move beyond the norms of society and to live our "relevant spirituality of Providence" trusting in the presence of Christ in our daily lives.

Christmas is about the birth of Christ in you. Let us pray this Christmas that we may remember the event and re-enter the experience of the birth of Christ within ourselves. This could be the most profound meaning of the celebration of Christmas for us as Providence women and men.

*Sylvia Resha
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