## Lent 2015

## Introduction

We know that Lent means springtime, the season of renewal, and "lente" from the Latin, means slowness. This holy season calls us to slow down and take stock of ourselves and our spiritual lives. It is the "acceptable time" to consider this God of love both in our own lives individually and in our society and its needs. It's not about just ashes for one day, but about living in love for all days...about the way we interact with others, embrace diversity, and see the possibility of goodness in all creation and creatures surrounding us.

We are followers of Jesus who strive to integrate Jesus' values into our own, who strive to live the beatitudes in our daily life. We are sinners, yes, but also we are Provident people redeemed, beloved and on the journey to wholeness. This God who is for us offers us the season of Lent as an opportunity for growth, for going deeper, for seeing possibilities of newness, for living in hope. As we hear in the Scriptures, "Now is the acceptable time" to draw nearer to our Provident God who makes all things, even our redemption, possible.

Sisters and Associates of our Women of Providence in Collaboration will be using the Scripture readings from Ash Wednesday, all the Sundays of Lent, and Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday for their reflections. They will use a Providence lens as they reflect on these Scriptures.

So, look in the mirror on Ash Wednesday, see the ashes and remember that you are dust, stardust, and allow the cosmic journey to begin again in you!

Barbara McMullen, CDP Executive Director, WPC

