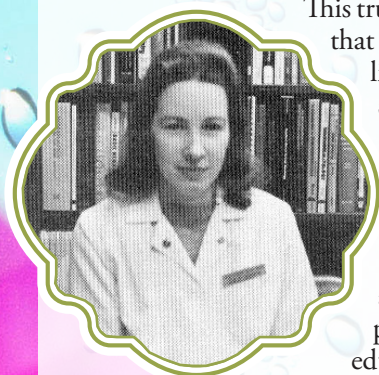


Dear Friend,

One of my favorite Easter memories, which I usually recall every year around this time, is a line from a skit which a group of our younger Sisters performed in the late 1960s. In that play, they described Easter as “Christ going down into the tomb and pushing Life out of the Earth.” It struck me back then that it was a unique and rather strange way to describe the Resurrection of Jesus. I remember it to this day, though, probably because it says to me now, many years later, that God is with us in the “tombs” of our lives. He is always urging us to push ourselves into life, even when we don’t want to or when we think we can’t. I have learned through the years—in the tomb-like experiences in my life—that when we follow Christ’s urging, He leads us into the light. So, even as we can draw comfort from the truth that our Provident God is with us in our darkest moments, our faith in the Risen One reminds us that He walks with us daily in the light of His Resurrection.

This truth was brought home to me recently when our community archivist shared that she had received an email message with “strange request” in the subject line. It was from a professor at the Yale School of Medicine who wrote to send her praise, and that of her colleagues, for a book written by our Sister Laurine Graff many years ago, “A Handbook of Routine Urinalysis.” What an amazing surprise that email was! Most of our Sisters would know that Sister Laurine wrote a book—which was an expansion of the thesis for her master’s in clinical science at San Francisco University in California—but probably not that she was the sole author, illustrator and photographer of it and that it was so valuable. In the words of the professor, “(Sister Laurine’s) handbook is an absolute staple of our fellows’ education... . Section Chiefs in nephrology at institutions all over the country have trained here—and her book has been a staple of that training... . It sits next to the microscope in our fellow’s lab, and has been there forever as far as I can tell. I have even had to buy used copies online over the years as it gets worn out so often with heavy use—and it is hard to get being (it is) out of print.”



Sr. Laurine Graff

Sister Laurine is remembered by our Sisters as a gentle, quiet woman who had an insatiable hunger for learning and a natural intellectual curiosity. Ministering in the field of medical science, she excelled as a scientist, teacher, researcher, diagnostician and an author. As a Sister of Divine Providence, Sister Laurine knew that her calling was to make God’s Providential care visible in our world. What better place to do so than in the health care profession? Many years after her untimely death, Sister Laurine’s incredible legacy continues to make God’s Providence a reality to more people than she could have ever imagined. She is a stunning example of the kind of legacy which the Sisters and Associates of Divine Providence strive to leave in our world as we commit ourselves daily to making God’s Providence visible in our world.

For Easter Christians, Jesus is not on the cross. He is not in the tomb. He has already “pushed life out of the Earth,” as I learned many years ago. Jesus is among the living, and that is where we are to be too. As we make God’s Providence more visible in our world, we are drawn with the sorrowing and the suffering to the heart of the Risen Jesus. We strive to make God’s Providence visible among the living by our care for those who are in need; by our advocating for those who have no voice; by living lives of integrity in the midst of deceit; and by being inclusive in our compassion and hospitality. Women and men who make God’s Providence visible are the evidence of Jesus’ resurrection and the sign to the world that Jesus has risen from the dead and is alive in the world today. We invite you to join us in creating that kind of legacy. Together we will make God’s Providence a reality for all the days to come.

In God’s abundant Providence,

Sister Michele

Sister Michele Bisbey, CDP | Provincial Director



Provident and Loving God,

You have entrusted each of us with particular gifts, talents, and abilities. All of Your blessings are freely given. They are sheer grace. May we never assume that we have earned or merited any of Your gifts. Be with us on life’s journey, help us to discern ways of using all that you have entrusted to us for the benefit of those in need, so that all that we do may make Your Providence more visible in our world. We are witnesses to the blessings of Your indiscriminate and abundant Providence. Grant that because of our presence and advocacy, all people may enjoy a future where diversity will be cherished, where violence will be no more, where the marginalized will be welcomed, and where all will have enough, because we have learned to share not only from our abundance, but from our very sustenance. We ask all of this in confidence, because we ask it in Your name. Amen.



cdpsisters.org

Since our founding in 1851, the world has changed in profound ways. Yet, one constant has remained—our generous partners and friends who remember us in their Last Will and Testament and help advance our mission.

The choice to make a gift through your will is very personal. It is a way to show care for your loved ones by making legal matters easy for them to handle after your death. It is a way to conserve your assets so your estate can go to your loved ones and beneficiaries. It is a



way to sustain the values and beliefs you embraced while you were alive.

Is there a Sister who was influential in your life? A Sister who taught you in school or worked in your parish? A lasting way to honor her or her memory is to leave a legacy gift to the Sisters in your will.

We appreciate your faithful support and cherish your legacy to help advance our mission of making God's providence more visible in our world.

For more information on legacy gifts, visit: cdpsisters.org/ways-to-give or call 412.635.5428

A large, dark, reflective stone with a bright light reflecting off its top surface, set against a background of many smaller, lighter stones.

Providence
Reflections