

Lent 2016

"Chaos and its creative possibilities lie in hope and profound openness to God's drawing us beyond the present." *Mary Kaye Nealen, SP*

With help from Wikipedia, one can determine that "the Big Bang theory is the prevailing cosmological model for the universe from the earliest known periods through its subsequent large-scale evolution. Modern measurements place this moment of chaos at approximately 13.8 billion years ago. After an initial expansion, the universe cooled sufficiently to allow the formation of subatomic particles, and later simple atoms. Giant clouds of these primordial elements later coalesced through gravity to form stars and galaxies." A moment of chaos and 13.8 billion years later planet earth gracefully rotates in the midst of the Milky Way galaxy as the universe continues to expand! We recall that "In the beginning God created heaven and earth...and God saw that it was good." (Genesis 1)

What seems to be the chaos of our present reality? War, poverty, global warming, corruption, terrorism, despair, heroin addiction, violence, species extinction... and the list goes on and on. Yet our belief in a Provident God assures us that good can come from anything. We know it does because we have witnessed it happening over and over again. The waiting with profound openness and hope can be difficult for those who expect immediacy and instant results from almost everything. It is good to begin another Lenten journey so we may be mindful of transformation, redemption, and our participation in the ever-renewing and creative hand of God in the midst of the chaos.

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*Lent 2016
Women of Providence
in Collaboration*