Lent 2015

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

I love our football team, the Seahawks. I have to admit, however, after the score at half time was: Packers – 19 Seahawks – 0, I was tempted to give up and turn off the TV. By some miracle the Hawks scored enough points in five minutes to go into overtime, and ultimately win the game. Quarterback Russell Wilson was asked after the game what happened and he replied, "Each time we got in the huddle we told one another "Never doubt" and that positive energy saved the game".

As I see Jesus this first Sunday of Lent being tempted so severely I wonder what He did to endure this struggle. For sure, I know He prayed. As I begin my Lenten journey I am tempted to look at all the negative things that are happening in our world. Violence, abuse, terrorism, and greed seem to be controlling our everyday existence.

I see our sisters getting older, fewer young women choosing this way of life, and the needs of the poor getting greater. Each year, as Lent approaches, I try to think of what I can do to live more closely the call of the Gospel. Today I am tempted to wonder, "What good can my Lenten efforts do?"

During my prayer time the answer is becoming clearer.... Providence has provided, and will continue to provide, all that we need. I have to tell myself over and over "NEVER DOUBT" and believe that miracles can happen. Our Foundresses began with so little, but with much faith and prayer the vocations came, and works flourished. Today the needs are very different but our sisters continue to do what they can to meet the needs of the less fortunate; physically, mentally and spiritually. I tell myself NEVER DOUBT, the needs of the poor will be met. Miraculously people will come forth and carry on the charism of our communities. My prayer can make a difference.

Rather than being depressed I begin my Lent with much joy and anticipation knowing that God is in charge. If a "Never Doubt" mantra of a football team can bring such positive results, surely my trust and confidence in Divine Providence can bring about even greater miracles for myself and those for whom I pray.

Virginia Miller, SP Seattle, WA

Lent 2015 Women of Providence in Collaboration