

Lent 2017

***"Providence has taught me to be a life-long novice; unpredictable things can happen!
There is no perfect equilibrium between cultures, but we need to
negotiate and gradually immerse in multiple cultures."***

Anji Fan, SP

Sr. Anji has given us a message about being life-long novices (learners). In order for us to be life-long learners and to be transformed, we need to ask our God of Providence to clothe us with the necessary gifts and behaviors. The focal point and center of our lifelong learning is the person and work of Christ. All things are in him, through him, and for him (Colossians 1:17).

From Colossians 3:12-14, we hear what it is we are called to this Lent: Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Bear with one another, forgive each other and clothe yourselves with love.

As women of Providence, we urge ourselves and others to trust in Providence, even when the unexpected occurs. The Word Incarnate, spoken and written, casts its light on our learning. Then we are infused with the "Word" and can be responsive to the unexpected.

As I reflect on the winter season 2017, I offer this poem:

My Winter Tree

*What can I say to you, my beautiful winter tree?
You are part of creation, given to us by our
Provident God.*

*You are beautiful even
in your nakedness,
with both your virtues
and flaws exposed.
We both wait patiently
for your new life
of spring and beauty
to be displayed once
again.*

*I too am your loving creature,
naked with my weaknesses exposed.
I would be as obedient as your trees,
always living according to your will.
We both wait in patience for my
emergence from my winter space.*



*Carolyn Winschel, CDP
Allison Park, PA*



*Second Sunday of Lent 2017
Women of Providence
in Collaboration*

