

Lent 2017

“Life requires emptying myself to allow Providence to guide God’s work within all the newness shown me. Community is essential; relationships fostered through respectful and contemplative dialogue as well as discernment become fundamental elements of life in ‘the hands of Providence.’”

Alba Letelier, SP

“Not my will, but thine, be done.” Imagine the emotion of that moment in the garden! And yet, as Jesus emptied himself of his own will to “let this cup pass,” he opened himself to the ultimate redemptive sacrifice: death on the cross, bringing eternal life to all.

Some people consider Lent a “desert time.” But any journey — whether through desert or garden, woods or city streets — involves a departure. We leave behind what is not serving God. We allow ourselves to be emptied of our own selfish desires, habits and wills, and in doing so, we will find a fullness we never knew. By letting go, we are filled up, renewed.

Nor do we make this journey alone. Unlike the apostles in the garden, our community is not asleep! As God works in us, we work with others to find focus and purpose. Take advantage of community worship opportunities, like mass or penance services, or even the anointing of ashes, to remind yourself that you are not alone. As we journey in Providence, we walk together...and God walks with us.

Where are you in your Lenten journey? Have you provided space for God to enter and renew your life? Have you allowed companionship within your community to strengthen you on this pilgrimage?

*Lori Strawn
Associate--Sisters of Providence
Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, IN*



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

