

Lenten Reflection

Holy Thursday

April 13, 2017



By Sister Donna Marie Gribschaw, CDP

“When Jesus had washed their feet ... He said to them, “Do you realize what I have done for you?... If I...have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another’s feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do.” [John 13]

*“I give you a new commandment, says the Lord;
Love one another as I have loved you.” [John 13:34]*

During the days of the Triduum, we devoutly remember the indiscriminate love of God manifested in the person of Jesus Christ. On this Holy Thursday night, we are nourished by the Word and we remember Jesus’ total gift of self to us in the Eucharist as we gather at the Table to be nourished and fed.

In our liturgy tonight, we renew our hearts to be Gospel people. This celebration of the Eucharist calls us to service! We are fed at the Table of the Eucharist and we are graced for service to be sent out into our world to be a Providence presence. The washing of the feet is truly a symbol for our ministry. As women and men of Providence, we proclaim and live a mission rooted in love, compassion, and justice.

How do I understand Jesus’ command or invitation to do this in memory of Me today in the 21st century? What are the particular actions to which I am invited?

The Sisters and Associates of Divine Providence recognize and understand the call as a commitment to ~

- > be in right relationship with one another and all of creation
- > be prophets of hope and agents of healing through peace and justice-making
- > live interculturally
- > create partnerships for the common good
- > to live in mystery, risk with hope and birth our future in providence.

Am I/Are we ready to embrace this call to servant leadership and participate in Jesus’ example of ministry to truly “Love one another as I have loved you”? Tonight, let us recommit ourselves to be risk-taking people and offer our gifts in the service of the people of God with compassion, love and fidelity as we journey together to do this in remembrance of Me, in remembrance of the God who loves us beyond our imagining.

