

Advent 2014

Advent, the season of waiting, hope, expectation, and alertness is upon us. We are asked to be watchful, to stay awake, to notice and to have our eyes and ears attuned to discover all the ways that Emmanuel, God-with-us, is present.

For us at the Women of Providence in Collaboration, Advent is a call to discover the Providence moments in our ordinary daily living, whether it is in the changing scenery around us, an Advent wreath and candles, reminding us of the Light of the world, the sending and receiving of Christmas cards, or the music that begins to fill the shopping malls. The abundance of our Provident God is evident all around us. Sometimes in the hustle and bustle of this season we might miss those “providential moments” in time.

This Advent, in preparation for our Providence Event and celebration of our 35th anniversary as WPC, we turn to quotes from our 2005 Providence Event where we looked at the cosmos and our role in it as agents of an on-going Providence. These cosmic quotes are being seen with an Advent lens as well as by our own Providence Sisters and Associate writers. It is my hope that you will also be reflecting on the quotes during this Advent season and looking with your own vision of compassion, justice and peace on the ordinary events of daily living and seeing Providence surrounding you in new ways.

With our speaker, Ilia Delio, OSF, we will be looking at the universe with our “providence lens” at this next Providence Event in June at St. Mary of the Woods, IN. Another writer with whom you may be familiar is Diarmuid O’Murchu. One of my friends sent me his quote, which also is very much in sync with our theme for this Providence Event. I leave you with this quote:

“God is not distant from the universe but a sustaining presence in all of creation. God’s presence is not inseparable from creatures but present and involved with the universe while still being independent of it....The universe is pregnant with the presence of God whose creative action is at the heart of the evolutionary process. God acts as a compassionate partner, as lure toward the future and as co-creator. Indeed, God labors on humans’ behalf.”

Barbara McMullen, CDP
WPC Executive Director



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