

Lent 2017

“When we as a people lose touch with our participation in the larger cosmic story in which we are intertwined, then society can and does become ill, diseased.”

Ruth McGoldrick, SP

Recently I moved into a different living situation that was closer to my frail ninety-five year-old mother and one that also met my present health circumstances. Laughingly I uttered, “This is my last move!” when in reality this is only one small move of self and stuff as I await the final move into the Heart and Home of our loving Provident God. My one-liner, “Into Your Heart, O Provident God, I commend my spirit,” keeps me in a perspective of trust, hope, and surrender. It is easy to name and acknowledge physical illness; however, far more difficult is dealing with the devastating illness that creates societal walls, borders, judgments, exclusions, to name but a few of the symptomatic signs of social illness, diseased.

My sister, who faithfully practices yoga, tells me that “yoga” means “union” and now is the time for us to come together as society. We may not agree on every issue but we all care about our country and Lent 2017 is an opportune time for healing. Speaking gently one’s perspective and truly listening to the other will help heal our social sickness.

The words of Martin Luther King, Jr. come to mind:

Darkness cannot drive out darkness;
only light can do that.

Hate cannot drive out hate;
only love can do that.

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

