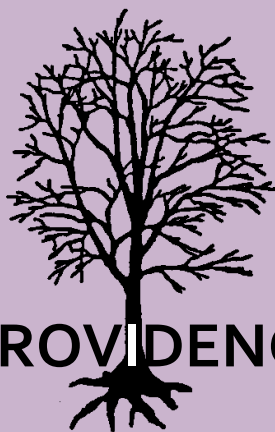




# Advent 2016



*Women of*

**PROVIDENCE**

*in Collaboration*

***“I am called to make Providence alive wherever I am called to be either locally or globally.”*** — Hong Nga Nguyen, SP

Did you ever disturb a bee’s home? All of the bee friends maraud around you, hoping that you will pay the price for the disturbance. If we react by flinging our hands through the air, or by yelling ridiculous retorts, we become part of the problem. “Be still,” a voice within whispers, “and go your way.”

How many times have we cried to a myriad of advisors who are stating their most salient points at one time, “Quiet down so I can think.” As the Presence of Jesus enters the consciousness of our restless minds, we hear Him say, “Be quiet now, so that I may speak and you may listen.”

Advent quiet. Advent silence. These are the ways that we can hear our best friend. It is Jesus who calls us. It is not that easy to identify our Friend. The Voice comes in repeated waves. It is unyielding in its effort to break through. The Voice unites our heart and soul into an affirmative response. We are called to continually live Providence by bringing faith and confidence in God’s loving care for all.

Mary and Joseph found Providence cradled in their arms, while they were surrounded by a cacophony of sounds, miraculous sights, and ordinary smells. They took the memories and brought them to their everyday lives as they raised the little one who was on loan to them from God.

Wherever we are, may we bring confidence in our loving Father as we sit in a wheel chair, drive in rush hour, minister to immigrants and the homeless, bury the dead, or rock a baby. Doing all with love, may we know that Providence calls in the calm of our heart.

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