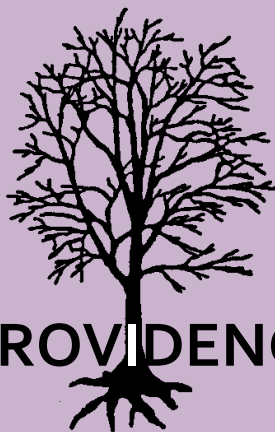




Advent 2016



*Second Sunday of Advent,
December 4*



Women of

PROVIDENCE

in Collaboration

"I believe that Providence manifests itself in my relationships and that I should let it surprise me with what I cannot 'control' or plan. I should just let God be God."

— Alba Letelier, SP

When I reflect on my own salvation history, I am struck at how the hand of Providence is woven throughout my story of relationships. I wandered about in my life track, running the game, making my plans, and keeping the score. And even then, the hand of Providence was present ... in my mother who prayed in thanksgiving for my birth, which came after a previous miscarriage and with birth complications ... and again, when I suffered severe leg burns and endured kidney disease complications ... in my parents who focused our family life around the Church ... in a boyfriend who led me into an encounter with the Sacred at a youth retreat ... in the various relationships Providence placed in my life that led to my entering a religious community ... in the many relationships that I encountered in my ministry that influenced my understanding of Providence ... to even today.

And woven throughout the same story is the many times I butted my head against the wall of control and planning. And, yet I have come to realize that the hand of Providence was also evident in the head-banging. Providence has surprised me with many different voices of relationships, both near and far, that influenced me to stop, listen and wait to let God be God in my life. And, therein lies the greatest surprise of all ... the hand of Providence leads to God being God.

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