

Lent 2017

“Providence takes our very weakness and sin, forgiving and transforming them like shards of glass fashioned into brilliant stained glass through which the light of God’s work glows.”

Mary Kaye Nealen, SP

Self-awareness is being attuned to our inner stirrings and outer realities. It is a great gift to possess and cultivate in our spiritual journey. Lent is a perfect time for us to foster this attentiveness. We can deepen our consciousness that enriches our lives as we become aware of our fragmented realities by reflecting on the perils that face us at every level of human and spiritual existence.

At times, it is easy to feel that we sit in the valley of dry bones, with no flesh and no hope in our present world stage (Ezekiel 37). Dichotomies in our ideologies often times hamper dialogue and threatens to destroy the very fabric of our human existence. To remain in the valley of the flesh is certainly death; however, as we reflect on St. Paul's letter to the

Romans, to place ourselves in the Spirit is to allow the work of Providence to bring forth life-giving relationships that spark hope and peace in ourselves, our Church, families, communities, and our world.

As people of hope, let us be mindful that God yearns for us, constantly inviting us to a deeper relationship. Let us ponder on our human frailties as opportunities God provides to heal us. The words of St. Irenaeus, “The glory of God is the human person fully alive,” let us be ALIVE, humbly accepting God’s mercy that strengthens our hope. As shards of hope, together we will transform our world!

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

