

Providence people “choose a change from our posture of dominion/control of the earth to a posture of creation/relation to our sisters and brothers, the land, the water, the air, the plants and the animals.”

– **Barbara Doherty, SP, and Michele Bisbey, CDP**

What a privilege it is to be free to “choose.” Have Providence people taken for granted the numerous opportunities we have to choose freely?

We are called, in this Lenten season, by the Holy One to renew our efforts to change our posture of dominance, to a posture of mutual relationship: to live creatively, side by side with Mother Earth, Her land, water, air, plants and all of God’s creatures.

How do we each “change” old habits of domination when we don’t even realize how much we **dominate**? Do we appreciate the parts of nature that give us air to breathe, water to drink, plants and animals for nourishment and pleasure? Are we able to empty our hearts of feelings that control or dominate another nature-relative?

How do we do this? By “crouching down” and looking at life from the viewpoint of the ant, the bee, the squirrel, the eaglet, the homeless person, the woman/man lured into prostitution, the needy child, the immigrant looking for a home, the person next to us day in and day out. Lent is a time to choose life by fostering creative change within our hearts. Are we willing to grow into one with all of creation? Providence people can and must in the name of the Holy One.

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