

*I found myself asking not **who** is Providence, but rather **where** is Providence? At long last, I discovered it in the paschal mystery, in the realization and belief that we are truly Easter People, and that after Good Friday of life and death comes the Resurrection.*

– **Mary Alice Chineworth, OSP**

Reflection on Providence in the Paschal Mystery is an encounter with the sacred which confirms our calling but changes us forever. It expands our consciousness to take in the mystery and wonder of even the most ordinary of our experiences. It is a process of transformation within which is given both new life and new spirit. The paschal mystery begins with suffering and death (Good Friday), moves on to the reception of new life (Easter Sunday), spends some time grieving the old and adjusting to the new (Ascension), and finally, only after the old life has been truly let go of, is new spirit given for the life already being lived (Pentecost). (R.Rolheiser)

Our life in the paschal mystery is the mystery of how we, after undergoing some kind of death, receive radically new life and new spirit. We co-create with our Creator and with our Redeemer continue to redeem. As Easter people, we bear witness to the paschal mystery when we proclaim Providence in our daily dyings and risings, and that in our war-torn and earth-shaken world our belief that Good Friday is followed by Resurrection. This is enlivened by Hope, the rock-solid certainty in the word of God in whom we believe and whose words we trust. And it is enough!

**Joan Mullen**  
*Sisters of Providence,  
Holyoke, Mass.*

