

Dear Friends,

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my strength is made perfect in weakness" 2Cor12:9

Here we are in February and Lent is upon us. What image does Lent bring to mind? Fasting from your favorite food or pastime? Doing some act of mercy or other good work? Giving something up or doing one more good thing may not be the only or best reason for the season. Lent is also the season of new life budding forth around us - and bringing new life to my life with God, to your life with God.

This brings me to the above Scripture quote. We can be aware of our weaknesses and shortcomings - and beat ourselves up on account of them. Or we can focus rather on God's loving mercy and ability to show us His strength through our weakness.

This is personal for me this Lenten season as I accept the mantle of leadership my sisters have called me to recently as their abbess. I am very aware of my own inadequacies and imperfections- and I want to be the abbess they deserve. When this Scripture was read recently in our liturgy, it struck me that I need to keep my focus on God's strength, not my weakness - and let God do God's thing through me and in me. Then all will be well.

As abbess I have the privilege to thank you for your goodness to us which is one way we experience God's provident care for us. Thank you for your gift.

Gratefully with prayer,

*Sr. Nancy, OSC*

Sr. Nancy, OSC and all your Poor Clare Sisters