



## CHRISTMAS REFLECTIONS

*Leadership Team members, Sr. Evelyn Lamoureux, DW and Sr. Catherine Sheehan, DW share their Christmas Reflections. Sr. Evelyn ponders the words of Baruch from the second Sunday of Advent and urges us to challenge ourselves, and Sr. Cathy shares a ritual she has long kept during the Christmas season.*

### **Sr. Evelyn Lamoureux, DW**

The reading from Baruch (Bar 5:1) on the Second Sunday of Advent reminded me of today's world situation. We read: "Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory of God forever."

I thought of the many times I complained about the many miserable things we witness in our world today. Baruch is challenging us to throw off the misery and do something about it. Wallowing is no answer. It just makes us and those around us feel worse and accomplishes nothing. As we look forward to the joys of Christmas, we need to be that joy for each other. For me, sometimes we cannot seem to make an impact on the global situation, but we can make an impact on our immediate situation. We need to challenge ourselves and each other this Advent season to "take off the robe of mourning" and bring joy to the world in our immediate area. Let us make the world a better place this Christmas.

### **Sr. Catherine Sheehan, DW**

Among the many activities of the Christmas season, the writing of Christmas cards remains a

As an initiate in God's mysteries, Wisdom participates in God's work. We, too, are called: to enter the cave of the heart, to trace the images drawn on its walls, to find God lying in the details of our lives, and then to emerge with newfound wisdom to engage in God's work.

Jan L. Richardson  
In Wisdom's Path (2000)

tradition for me. In these times, we have many choices of how "to write" a Christmas card. There are such lovely animated e-cards as well as "gifs" to send via Facebook or Instagram. But somehow, sitting in a comfortable chair and signing a card and perhaps writing a little message is a ritual I still enjoy. This year I began writing my Christmas cards while on a short Advent retreat. It was the perfect setting to remember those who are all a part of my life in some way.

As I signed and addressed the cards, I found myself praying with gratitude for the people on my Christmas Card List. I have been blessed through the details of my life and cherish those who have been a part of my journey. May this Christmas season be a time of thanksgiving and peace!