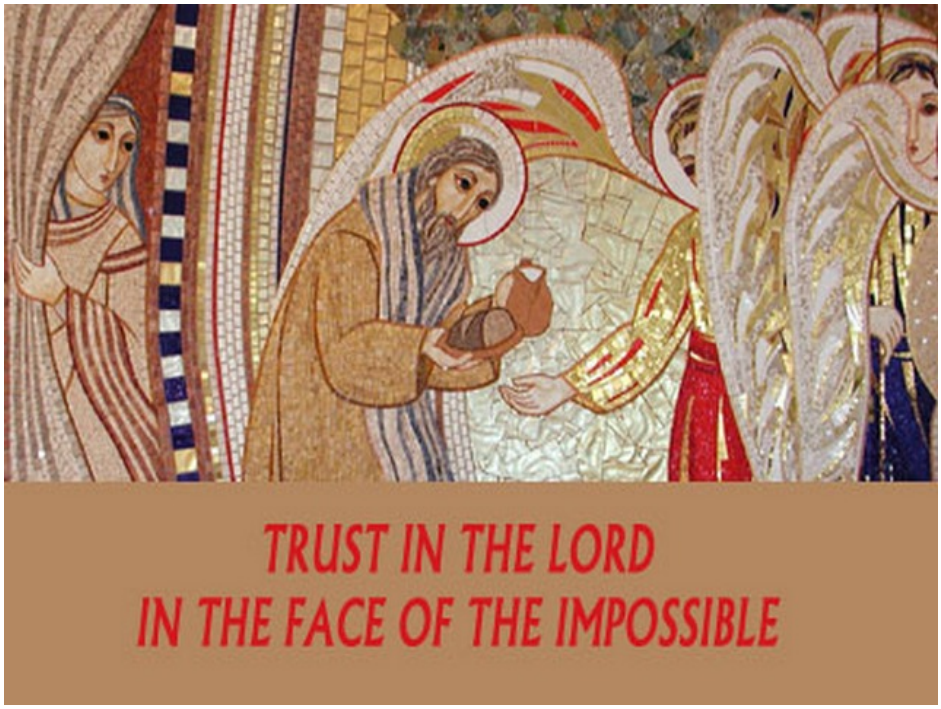
WALKING THE PATH OF ADVENT WITH THE WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

Trust in the Lord in the face of the impossible



Mosaics by Centro Aletti in the Chapel of the St. Charles Brotherhood in Rome

We know the figure of Sarah, Abraham's wife. The Lord spoke to Abraham and promised him descendants but, in fact, Abraham and Sarah were unable to have children. How great a burden Sara must have felt in her heart and in her life...

Looking at the matriarch of Israel during this Advent we see a woman who devises a plan to make sure, with her human strength, that the plan of the Lord be fulfilled. But God's plans are higher than ours. So much higher that when she tends her ear to hear the words that the three "men" announced to her husband Abraham at the oaks of Mamre, she cannot help but laugh inwardly. And then "the Lord said to Abraham: Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son."(Gen 18:13-14).

Sarah teaches us tenacity and creativity in the face of trial but above all her figure shows us how God's intervention can change our lives: He is able to open a road in the desert. And we are called to trust in His promises.

(1° week of Advent 2016)