

PROVIDENCE ASSOCIATES

Individuals who desire to share the mission and spirituality of Providence, as members of the laity. They are from all faiths and walks of life who also hold Gospel values as the compelling force in their lives. They want to make a difference in their world. They support one another in their concern for the unfortunate of our times — those who are in need and/or marginalized.

Our particular Providence mission began in the caring presence of our foundress, Blessed Emilie Gamelin. She was inspired by her love for all people, and by her devotion to Our Mother of Sorrows in responding to the needs of children, the sick, the elderly, people with disabilities, prisoners, the mentally ill, and especially the poor.

As a young woman, Emilie belonged to the Ladies of Charity before establishing the religious community of the Sisters of Providence. The ladies continued to be an important element in the mission of Providence after the congregation was formed.

*"Don't think that it's a small thing to be devoted to the relief of those in distress, for we're giving pleasure to God."
Saint Vincent de Paul (XI:17)*



Providence Associates Meetings are held the last Sunday of the month from September to June beginning at 1:30 pm at Providence Center.



PROVIDENCE ASSOCIATES
WESTERN CANADA

For further information, please contact Sr. Magdalena Chan.

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Providence Centre — EDMONTON

3005-119 St. NW,

Edmonton, AB Canada T6J 5R5

DESIGN - CLARA CHEUNG



PROVIDENCE ASSOCIATES
WESTERN CANADA



OUR MISSION

We, Providence Associates, within our own state of life and through our collaboration with the Sisters of Providence and each other, commit our gifts from the Holy Spirit to proclaim God's Providence for all creation and to manifest the compassionate love of our Mother of Sorrows.



PROVIDENCE ASSOCIATE CHARISM

- A gift inspired by the Holy Spirit and motivated by Christ for the good of others
- It is an inner voice that urges one onward to fulfill certain needs in the church
- Emilie Gamelin's charism was her burning desire to help alleviate the sufferings of the poor of her day. She cared for them with the compassion of Our Mother of Sorrows and with deep trust that Providence would provide for their needs.

It was also her desire that her mission be carried out with simplicity, humility and above all with charity.

Together with the Sisters of Providence, our main goal and focus is to make known Emilie Gamelin's charism and mission of compassionate service to the poor, her deep trust in Providence and her love for Our Mother of Sorrows in the secular world in which we live and work.

WHY BE A PROVIDENCE ASSOCIATE?

- To be empowered by the Gospel of Jesus Christ
- To deepen their knowledge of the life and spirit of Emilie Gamelin and the Sisters of Providence
- To share faith, deepen their Providence Spirituality, to affirm and empower one another to develop leadership qualities, to bond with one another and to accept one another where they are at emotionally and spiritually

BECOMING AN ASSOCIATE

The process begins with an initial inquiry by an individual. An orientation for the prospective Associate is arranged. This lasts for six months to one year. In the beginning, the focus is on the history, spirituality & mission of the Sisters of Providence. The second stage focuses on the individual and their commitment to personal prayer, reading and studying the history of the congregation and the Church, attending regular meetings and other gatherings, both formal and social. Following the orientation, and after a letter of acceptance from the Congregation has been received by the perspective Associate, a simple commitment ceremony is held.



ACTIVITIES/MINISTRIES

As Providence Associates we are called upon to support the poor in homes and families, church, community, country, Sisters of Providence and in the world.

SOME OF OUR MINISTRIES & ACTIVITIES:

- Anawim Foodbank
- Christmas Sing Song for the Sisters at Providence Center
- Deaf community
- Parish Ministries
- Pastoral care
- Prayer
- Prison Ministries
- Visiting those who need a friend
- WINGS of Providence (women's shelter)

