



Echoes of Emilie

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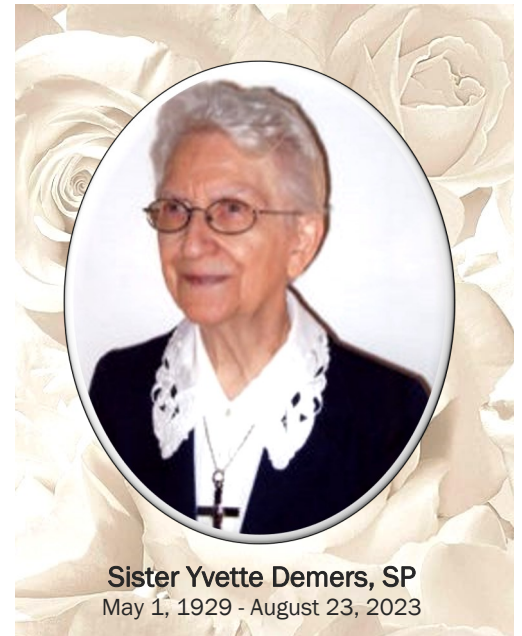
A loving farewell

Humility, simplicity, and charity were the last words of Blessed Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin when she passed away on September 23, 1851.

These were also the principles that guided the life of a great lady who left us on August 23, our dear Sister Yvette Demers, Vice-Postulator for the Cause of Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin, but above all a woman who left an indelible mark on those who met her throughout her 50 years of service to the Bureau of the Cause.

Sister Yvette was a discreet woman, disarmingly simple, but with exceptional leadership skills. She could read the signs of the times and responded with wisdom, always inspired by her Mother Gamelin.

Émilie reached out to the poor, basket in hand, in the streets of her native Montreal, and Sister Yvette, always marked by the charisma of her foundress and transcending geographical boundaries, alleviated misery and brought hope to those who con-



Sister Yvette Demers, SP
May 1, 1929 - August 23, 2023

fided her their suffering and difficulties, and who, for various reasons, would seek her advice and prayers. Her caring smile comforted so many lives! A woman of faith always ready to listen, Sister Yvette was an example of self-sacrifice and dedication; she served as long as her strength allowed.

Sister Yvette was the ultimate reference in everything concerning the



history of Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin and of the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence. She spared no effort promoting Mother Gamelin's work. Since her arrival at the Office of the Cause in 1972, she demonstrated great patience and perseverance at every stage of the Cause's process. She gave all she had, until her last breath.



Sisters Yvette Demers and Thérèse Frigon - June, 2012.

It was very good for the soul and enriching to be with her. Her trust in Providence was contagious, and we couldn't help but be imbued with the words she used to tell us: *"The Lord is my shepherd : I shall not want"* (Psalm 23) and *"It is important to make known to Christians throughout the world the values of faith, self-sacrifice and dedication to all human misery, which animated Blessed Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin, so that following her example, corporal and spiritual works of mercy continue to be lived throughout the world, following the models that the Church proposes to us through beatifications and canonizations"*.



Sister Yvette Demers, SP, celebrating her 50th anniversary of dedicated service to the Cause of Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin - April, 2022.



*Sister Yvette,
Thank you for your presence in our lives.
You are one more reason
to aspire to the canonization
of this great lady,
servant of God,
Blessed Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin.*

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Nancy Prada
Coordinator, Émilie Gamelin Centre

SPONSORSHIP PROJECT 2023-2024

A word from the Director

The Émilie-Gamelin School in Torbeck, administered by the Sisters of Providence, was founded in 2017. Its administrative block and a 9-classroom module are currently under construction and will be operational at the beginning of this school year.

The school has 6 kindergarten classrooms and 8 primary classrooms, from grades 1 to 7, providing the bread of education in a rural and agricultural area affected by the upheavals prevailing in a country socio-economically plagued by insecurity, gangsterism, inflation, and particular climatic conditions generating poverty, misery, unemployment, and malnutrition.

In addition, many parents do not have the resources to cover the cost of a year's schooling for their children, as the country's infrastructure is inadequate to meet the population's educational needs. Here, many underprivileged children can attend our school thanks to generous people whose heart is touched by these young ones who are reaching out to them.

Thank you for your donation that will give a ray of hope to a child.

Sister Ghislaine Landry, SP, Director



**Thanks to your donation,
I will be able
to go to school this year!**

Our Educational Project

At Émilie-Gamelin School, children are at the heart of our educational programs and concerns.

We work hard to ensure that they live in harmony in a safe and secure school, and that they become more autonomous and self-disciplined, while acquiring skills through up-to-date and dynamic methods.



Many Thanks!

Many thanks to our generous benefactors! Your donations help provide for the needs of the young Émilie-Gamelin School, which is still under construction. This invaluable support makes it possible to offer Torbeck's community a quality Catholic institution.

What were the donations used for?

- ♥ 37 children received partial or full scholarships.
- ♥ Children were provided with schoolbooks.
- ♥ Donations helped serve a hot meal every lunchtime to the school's 443 pupils.



THE SITUATION OF FAMILIES IN THE REGION

Thousands of children are marginalized from the schooling system in Haiti. The parents' greatest hope is to send their children to school, but most of the parents who are poor are unable to realize this dream for lack of financial means.

Educating a child is very expensive, as parents must cover all the costs: books, notebooks, admission and trimester fees, uniforms, meals. As a result, they often come to us for a full or half-scholarship to enable their children to attend school.

The sponsorship project we are relaunching this year could help us welcome more underprivileged children to our school. A full scholarship, a half-scholarship or any other donation would be of great help. Any contribution you can make will be greatly appreciated. Here's an overview of the fees at Émilie-Gamelin School.



Many of our students suffer from malnutrition in their homes. The school provides them with a daily breakfast and a hot meal.

At our school, from Grade 3 onwards, students learn computer skills and have access to the interactive digital whiteboard.

We also provide a psychological service to help students in difficulty, as well as their parents and teachers, depending on the children's needs.

KINDERGARTEN	PRIMARY LEVEL
CAN \$ 250	Grades 1 and 2 CAN \$ 300
	Grades 3 to 7 CAN \$ 400 to 500



Kindergarten in the foreground
Primary level in the background

✂ --- CUT HERE ---

I wish to contribute to the scholarship of a child. Here is my contribution: CAN\$ _____ or USD\$ _____

Send your check payable to: **LE FONDS PARTAGE PROVIDENCE**
Mail to Sr. Claudette Leroux, SP, Provincial Treasurer, at 5553, De Salaberry Street, Montreal, Qc, H4J 1J5 Canada


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 Check this box if you wish to receive the name, photo and school results of the sponsored child.



Thank You
for your
generosity

Sister Yvette Demers, A Pearl of Providence

On the early afternoon of August 23, after receiving the Anointing of the Sick and the Apostolic Blessing, Sister Yvette Demers, vice-postulator of the Cause Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin, serenely passed away to reach the joys of Heaven. May her soul rest in eternal peace! God, in all His Providence, surely welcomed her along with Our Lady of Sorrows, Blessed Émilie and her beloved colleague from the Bureau of the Cause, Sister Thérèse Frigon, who died earlier, in 2021.

During the last months of her life, Sister Yvette received frequent thoughtful gestures from people who, from near or far, supported her and rendered her well-deserved kindnesses.

Sister Yvette Demers was a religious woman deeply devoted to Providence, to Our Mother of Sorrows, and, from her earliest days as a Sister of Providence, to Émilie, "her beloved Mother Gamelin". Throughout her life, she remained faithful to these three solid pillars which were her inspiration to the very end...

As Émilie, Sister Yvette showed great determination in life and in the various missions entrusted to her. She also showed humility, simplicity, and loving charity to those around her, and always served the community with unflinching respect and abnegation.



**Sister Yvette Demers, SP, during the pilgrimage
"In the Footsteps of Émilie" with the
personnel of the General Administration.
Mai 27, 2009.**

Sister Yvette leaves behind an exceptional heritage of content about Blessed Émilie and her Charism, about the significant events in the Congregation, and about the Cause of Émilie itself. Her writings, a real treasure, have been read by Sisters of Providence and lay collaborators, as well as by all the devotees who receive the "Echoes of Émilie" newsletter in over 45 countries, and who thank Blessed Émilie for the great and small daily miracles obtained through her intercession.

As Émilie, Sister Yvette also knew how to inspire confidence in Providence in people's hearts. With confidence and determination, she gave a word of hope to all those who, in need, entrusted to her their prayer intentions for Mother Gamelin.

The Cause of Émilie was very dear to Sister Yvette's heart. She demonstrated it in every step of the long process. Her dream: the Canonization of the Foundress, Blessed Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin. Of course, our beloved Sister Yvette was called to God before this happened. But when this great event finally does take place, to which she dedicated so much of her life, it will be the crowning achievement of her great contribution to the Cause of "her beloved Mother Gamelin".





Sister Yvette Demers, SP, receiving the blessing from Pope John-Paul II. Rome, 2001.



Sister Yvette Demers, SP, with Sister Thérèse Frigon, SP. Rome, 2001.



Sister Yvette Demers, SP, during the celebration of her jubilee (75 years of religious life), June 2023, with Sister Jeannine LeBel, SP. (Sister LeBel passed away on September 23, 2023)

In 2023, Sister Yvette Demers received two certificates of recognition from the House of Commons for her 50 years of contribution and of active and committed presence to the Cause

Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin. The first certificate was signed by the Right Honorable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, and the second by Mr. Angelo Iacono, M.P., deputy for Alfred-Pellan and a former student of Sister Yvette's, who has always remained deeply grateful to her.



We will remember Sister Yvette forever for the love she sowed in our hearts, for her genuine and respectful approach, for her dedication and generosity in sharing, for her words and actions always fair, measured and gentle, and for her benevolent words and deeds. A woman blessed with numerous virtues!

Goodbye, dear Sister Yvette,

Little pearl, and great gift of Providence,
we love you very much!

Lorena Otero
Adm. Assistant and Museum tour guide at the Émilie Gamelin Centre
Contributor to the Bureau of the Cause of Émilie Gamelin



The teams of the Émilie Gamelin Center and the Bureau of the Cause wish to thank you, dear readers, for your faithfulness.

We would like to extend a special greeting to those who read us in **Quebec and Vancouver (Canada), Peru, Malaysia, Thailand, Switzerland and Saudi Arabia.**

A few quotes by Sister Yvette . . .

"...the first thing that rises to my mind and heart in this jubilee year is to pay a tribute of gratitude to the Lord who chose me from all eternity, and to my Congregation which accepted me and allowed me to live 70 beautiful years, first in the ministry of education among young people, then in the ministry of collaboration for the preparation of the Cause of beatification and canonization of our Blessed Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin."

"I was always impressed by these vocational testimonies about religious life, and since my First Communion I wanted to become a sister, and every day I prayed for this intention."

About her temporary vows in 1949: "But for me, in my heart, it was not a matter of time ... finally, I gave myself to the Lord, to work in His Vineyard, until the last day of my life! My great desire was fulfilled!"

About her commitment to the ministry of the Cause of Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin: "For 46 years now, I have pursued my commitment to what I call the most beautiful of Causes, and the most beautiful ministry to which I never thought I'd be called, but which I would not exchange for anything in the world."

"Indeed, there have been more difficult moments, choices to be made, and commitments to be respected, but I have always felt that Providence was helping me, that "little miracles" were happening. I am convinced that God is faithful and that He never fails those who trust Him. And I am ready to continue as long as He keeps me strong and healthy!"

"...with me. Let us magnify the Lord for these beautiful years of service in Blessed Émilie's Vineyard."

S. Yvette Demers, s. p.

Sister Yvette Demers, SP

Vicepostulator, Cause of Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin



Source: Excerpts from Sr. Yvette Demers' presentation during the 175th Anniversary Celebration of the Foundation of the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence, held on August 23, 2018, at the Providence International Center, in the presence of Sr. Karin Dufault, SP, Congregational Leader, the General Leadership Team and the General Administration personal.



Gratitude to Émilie



A litany of thank you's to Blessed Émilie... Thank you, Émilie!

Here is another Mass offering to ask Mother Émilie Gamelin to protect my sister D., who is 71 and very ill. I ask Émilie to protect her and to watch over her because I love my sister so much! I have great confidence in Mother Gamelin!

C.L., Ruisseau-a-Rebours, QC

Enclosed is an offering for Eucharistic celebrations in honor of Blessed Émilie Gamelin for my prayer intentions.

M.M., Montreal, QC

A great thanks to Blessed Émilie for the favors obtained for my family. Here is a mass offering. Thank you for your prayers!

L.H., Victoriaville, QC

Here is a mass offering in honor of Mother Gamelin for the healing of my 6-year-old great-grandson L., who is being treated for cancer. I have great confidence in Mother Gamelin.

J.P., Ville-Marie, QC

In the 70s, Mr. Émile Arsenault, father of a very good friend of my family, fractured his pelvis and had to be hospitalized. This accident caused him a lot of pain and required medical attention. Mr. Arsenault and his son Michel, faithful devotees of Mother Gamelin, prayed to Blessed Émilie with Sister Adèle Bériault, one of Michel's aunt, concerning this health problem.

Overnight, the pain disappeared and, according to the doctors, no follow-up was required as Mr. Émile's fractured pelvis was completely healed. Mr. Émile and his son Michel thanked Blessed Émilie for this favor for a long time, and wanted to share this experience to let believers know about her power of intercession before God.

M.D., St-Eustache, QC

Please find enclosed an amount for two Masses to thank Mother Gamelin for the

successful surgery and the full recovery of my grandson (J.) after the surgery. In June, J. underwent surgery for a tumor in his lower back. Although it had grown and the nerves surrounded the tumor, it turned out to be benign and the surgery was a success. Since then, he is been treated and we pray for his full recovery.

F.S., Grondines, QC

Just a few words to thank Émilie Gamelin for her presence in my life. Many thanks for all your generosity! Here is a donation for the Cause of Émilie Gamelin.

R.B., Shawinigan, QC

Thank you to Émilie Gamelin for protecting me and for the many favors obtained. I pray every day for her canonization. Here is a donation for her Cause. I am sure that there will be better days!

S.F., Longueuil, QC

I am sending you offerings for masses and candles to thank God for the following favors obtained: the successful moving of my daughter, a significant health improvement, and finding a very significant lost object. I am doing much better thanks to the help and presence of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Our Lady of Sorrows and "mother" Émilie in my life; they are with me! I ask them to continue protecting me and helping me with my health problems.

A. L., Lachine,

Here is a donation to thank this good Mother, Émilie Gamelin in whom I trust. She has been a true Providence for my whole family. I hope that, with your prayers and my trust in Mother Gamelin, this disease that we have contracted again, COVID-19, will not cause us any after-effects.

R.D., Sainte-Ursule, QC

Here is a small offering to express our gratitude to Mother Gamelin for the many favors obtained.

J.L., Quebec, QC

We remain confident in our Blessed Émilie. We entrusted God and Émilie a very special favor. We remain faithful... Please pray for us!

G.D., Rimouski, QC

Thank you Émilie, for getting me a negative result on a breast biopsy. I pray to Émilie for my children, so that she helps them and protects them. Please pray for my son and his upcoming surgery on a shoulder, for a successful result, and for my daughter, for her present life and for her future.

A., Shawinigan, QC

We wish to thank and pray for the following benefactors:

G.A., Louisville, QC

D.O., Laval, QC

S.Y.D., Montreal, QC

R.R., St-Tite, QC

G.D., St-Edouard-de-Maskinonge, QC

R.D., Trois-Rivieres, QC

G.D.-A., Rimouski, QC

M.D., Montreal, QC

Blessed Émilie Gamelin,
intercede for those
who are confident in you!

Lorena Otero

Administrative assistant Museum tour guide
at the Émilie Gamelin Centre

Contributor to the Bureau of the Cause of
Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin



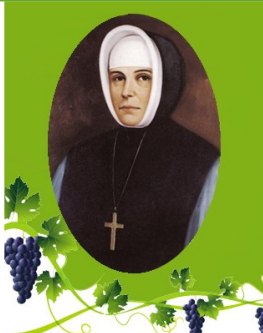
Let us pray
for PEACE
in the World!

Gratitude to Émilie

Please address all favours obtained to:

Bureau of the Cause of Émilie Gamelin
12 055, Grenet Street,
Montreal, QC H4J 2J5 Canada

Lorena Otero
Phone: (514) 334-9090 (Ext. 217)
lotero@providenceintl.org



To Blessed Émilie
we confide
all the intentions
that you carry in your hearts,
both spiritual and temporal;
she will certainly know
how to lend an attentive ear
to all your needs.