Prayer

Provident God,
we pray in gratitude for the gift of
St. Marguerite d’Youville.

Love for You gave her
compassion which
enlivened her service
to all in need.

Trust in You gave her
courage which
strengthened her resolve
to bring justice and peace
to unjust situations.

Faith in You gave her
confidence which
deepened her relationship
with You, herself
and others.

Loving God, bestow on us gifts of
enlivening compassion
strengthening courage
and deepening confidence.

St. Marguerite d’Youville
continue to pray with us
for a share in these gifts
for we are your
sisters and brothers. Amen.

- Mary Elizabeth Looby, GNSH

“... we are called to trust, to risk,
to walk new paths in faith,
and through lives of love
to make each day an eternal now.”
- Catherine Fairhaur, GNSH

ASSOCIATE COMMUNITY
of the
Grey Sisters of the
Immaculate Conception

Contact Information

WESTERN CANADA
Shannon Cisyk
1-306-745-6338  scisyk@sasktel.net

ONTARIO
Dianne Nieman
1-613-822-9083  dinieman@rogers.com
Jane Scott
1-613-735-1360  janescott@sympatico.ca
Dave Smith
1-705-267-2395  davidsmith818@yahoo.ca

EASTERN CANADA
Deborah Lonergan-Freake
1-902-538-5762  ajdafreake@eastlink.ca

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
Consuelo
nrosagsic@yahoo.ca
Yamasa
noeliah2005@yahoo.ca

Saint Marguerite d’Youville
Foundress of the Grey Nuns
1701-1771

Compassionate and Courageous
Women and Men
Living the spirit of Saint Marguerite
in daily life
Marguerite d’Youville  
A Woman for our Times

Her Life

- Born in Varennes, Quebec on October 15, 1701
- Married François d’Youville, a neglectful, deceitful husband, who engaged in illegal trade
- Subjected to a domineering mother-in-law
- Suffered the loss of 4 children in infancy
- Widowed at age 28 and raised 2 sons as a single mother

Her Mission

- These formative experiences deeply affected her inner strength. She developed the capacity to balance efficiency and competence with a deep understanding of human need.
- She saw and responded to human misery and pain in the poor around her: orphans, the homeless, prostitutes, everyone in need regardless of their political, ethnic, religious or cultural backgrounds.
- Guided by the wisdom of the Spirit, Marguerite stood in opposition to society. She was fearless in challenging civil and church authorities whenever justice toward the poor was the issue.

Her Legacy

- She leaves us the inspiration of a strong, creative woman, a risk taker, a powerful advocate for the poor - a person who reveals the face of God, the God who loves the small and the great and gathers all into one family of love.

Associates of the Grey Sisters  
People for our Times

Who are Associates?

Associates of the Grey Sisters of the Immaculate Conception are women and men from all walks of life, regardless of age, who make a commitment within their life-style to live Saint Marguerite’s spirituality, mission and ministry.

Why become an Associate?

As Associates, we are part of a Community which embraces a common vision of faith, life and service that leads us to share our time, talents, energy, prayers and resources with “all our sisters and brothers, especially the most vulnerable among us.”

- Grey Sisters of the Immaculate Conception  
Direction Statement, May 2005

What will I do as an Associate?

You will continue to use your gifts in your everyday life - whether in your home, place of employment or volunteer work. What changes is the awareness of these as being a part of a shared vision with other Associates.

“…we are sent to a broken world to be channels of God’s justice; to sow seeds of peace, to live compassion, to serve with love.”

- Catherine Fairbairn, sjc

“All the wealth of the world does not come near the joy of living in close union with each other … to be of one heart and soul, to honour and serve each other.”

- Marguerite d’Youville

“All those in need touched hands extended, found hope through love.”

- Catherine Fairbairn, sjc