



Four Daughters of Charity Provinces Unite in St. Louis, Name New Leader

The Daughters of Charity have formed a new province for their Community by uniting four provinces in the United States and Canada — Emmitsburg, MD, Albany, NY, St. Louis, MO, and Evansville, IN — into the Province of St. Louise, with a provincial home and offices in St. Louis.

The Sisters have as their “rule” that they are “sent” on mission. Being available to meet the needs of people who live in poverty requires great mobility. The St. Louis location allows for that flexibility, as it has adequate access to public transportation.

After consultation with all 580 Sisters in the uniting Provinces, **Sr. Louise Gallahue** has been designated by the Superioress General, Sr. Evelyne Franc, and the General Council to be the first Visitatrix (leader) of the new province.

Sr. Louise has been the Visitatrix in Albany since September 2009, and also served in that role from 1993-2002. She was chair of the board at St. Vincent’s Medical Center, Bridgeport, CT, where she spent seven years between her terms as Visitatrix.

The Daughters of Charity were founded in France in 1633 by St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac for a specific mission, which remains as necessary today as it was then--to serve Christ in persons who are poor. The Sisters serve in 92 countries as educators, health care professionals, social workers, parish ministers and advocates for those who live in poverty.

By uniting four of the five United States provinces, the Sisters will continue to serve God’s poorest throughout 22 of 34 states within the Provincial boundaries, the District of Columbia, and Quebec, Canada. They will continue to collaborate with others in the Vincentian Family, including members of the Vincentian priests and brothers, the Ladies of Charity, the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Sisters of Charity Federation Communities, and others who follow in the footsteps of St. Vincent and St. Louise.

The Daughters believe that combining sister-personnel and their “best practices” will be the most effective way to continue to stand in solidarity with the increasing number of people who find themselves in circumstances of poverty.

The new province will be incorporated in July 2011.

[Please click here for information on future usage of St. Joseph’s Provincial House in Emmitsburg, Maryland.](#)