

Sponsored Ministries



Providence Heights Alpha School



Sacred Heart Schools



Providence Connections

Retreat Ministry
◆ *Kearns Spirituality Center*
◆ *Providence Villa*



Room at the Inn



Sponsored Ministries

Opening Prayer

Sponsored Ministries: A Call On Our Lives

A Psalm of Keeping Vigil

Leader: People of Providence in Education ministries keep vigil when the values they live have been imparted and they then encourage students to move in continuing the circle of Providence.

All: Be vigilant. Keep watch. Otherwise some itinerant whim will steal your Providence heart away.

Leader: People of Providence in Health Care ministries keep vigil when they hold life in their gentle, healing embrace until it is time to return again to the gentle embrace of Providence.

All: Be vigilant. Keep watch. Otherwise some itinerant whim will steal your Providence heart away.

Leader: People of Providence in Retreat ministries keep vigil when they guide others in their spiritual journey.

All: Be vigilant. Keep watch. Otherwise some itinerant whim will steal your Providence heart away.

Leader: People of Providence in Social Service ministries keep vigil when they strengthen families and improve their way of life.

All: Be vigilant. Keep watch. Otherwise some itinerant whim will steal your Providence heart away.

Leader: People of Providence in Parish ministries keep vigil when they collaborate with women and men to be Church and journey with them, letting Providence permeate the earth.

All: Be vigilant. Keep watch. Otherwise some itinerant whim will steal your Providence heart away.

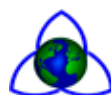
Leader: People of Providence keep vigil when listening, questioning hearts challenge us deeper into the heart of Providence and outward to **BE** Providence.

All: Be vigilant. Keep watch. Otherwise some itinerant whim will steal your Providence heart away.

Based on ideas from Women of Wisdom by M. T. Winter, 1993.

All Pray:

Ever welcoming God, help us to open our hearts to the needs of our sisters and brothers. Transform our minds, our attitudes and hearts. Create a sacred space, as host or guest, to share your love and care for all. O teach us to be welcoming like you. Amen



Education

Teaching and sharing the Catholic faith is an important part of the mission of the Sisters of Divine Providence. The Community sponsors various schools in Pittsburgh and Kingston, MA.

La Roche College

La Roche College was founded in 1963 by the Sisters of Divine Providence as an independent, private, Catholic college for religious sisters. By 1965 the college admitted its first lay students and conferred degrees on its first six graduates, all members of the Sisters of Divine Providence. By 1969 male students were admitted to the college and beginning in 1993, the Pacem In Terris program brought students from many countries, mostly developing regions and conflicted regions of the world. La Roche offers over 80 majors and minors at the undergraduate level and six graduate degree programs.



From its scenic 80-acre campus, La Roche reaches out to students from the United States and other nations, offering the promise of more fruitful lives for individuals and the hope of a better world for us all. One thing that has remained constant throughout its history is the spirit that animates the institution. It is the same spirit that has animated the Congregation of Divine Providence, since its foundation 160 years ago. It is that spirit which will lead La Roche College for many decades to come.



Providence Heights Alpha School

Alpha School is a private, Catholic, coeducational school located on the 40-acre campus of the Sisters of Divine Providence. Since 1926, Alpha School has educated children to be independent thinkers, imaginative problem solvers, and caring, compassionate individuals. Voted one of the 25 most innovative Catholic schools in the country, Alpha School provides outstanding instruction in fundamental skills, while encouraging original thinking, intellectual curiosity, moral growth, and creative self-expression. With a student teacher ratio of 15:1, there is ample opportunity for individual attention and practical classroom experience.



Teaching and sharing the Catholic faith is an important part of Alpha's mission. The school fosters an environment in which faith and Christian values become a living and active part of each school day. Alpha School and the Sisters share a special relationship. Sisters are on the faculty, and students plan and participate in weekly liturgies in the Providence Heights Chapel. Students are encouraged to incorporate acts of charity and social justice into their school and family life.

Sacred Heart School System

Located in Kingston, MA, the Sacred Heart Schools are comprised of a co-educational system from preschool through grade 12. The schools have flourished in large measure due to the faith and hard work of the Sisters of Divine Providence, committed lay faculty and staff members.

Sacred Heart Elementary School (Preschool through Grade 6) is a private, Catholic Elementary School that is an educational ministry founded



by the Congregation of the Sisters of Divine Providence. Sacred Heart Elementary School is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.



Sacred Heart High School, a private Catholic institution founded by the Sisters of Divine Providence for the education of young men and woman of southeastern Massachusetts, has the following threefold purpose: to develop and reinforce Gospel values; to provide an academic program which effectively prepares the student for the

pursuit of knowledge now, in higher education, and throughout life, and; to develop a community of faith whose members are committed to habits of responsible leadership, respect for the dignity of persons, and dedication to service. The school and its staff is active in over 25 professional organizations and hold membership in NEASC, NCEA and AISNE .

Retreats and Spirituality

Recognizing a constant hunger for spirituality and renewal of the human spirit, the Divine Providence Retreat Ministry operates two diverse retreat centers.

Kearns Spirituality and Conference Center

Kearns, located on the Providence Heights property,

is a non-denominational ministry offering programs in spirituality and holistic health to anyone searching for a deeper meaning in their lives through a season of events, programs, and classes that are designed to enhance, renew and revitalize the human spirit. Kearns also hosts many retreats for groups of all faiths.



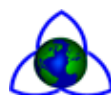
The Conference Center provides meeting space and hospitality for groups up to 250 people for meetings and up to 200 people for dining. The Retreat Center offers 25 double rooms and three suites. A dining room seats 70 with full kitchen or food service available. Visitation Chapel accommodates 170 people. The grounds offer a Woodland Reflection Trail, Labyrinth for prayerful walking, a Gazebo and Meditation Garden for quiet medication and a spirituality library. Special services include Spiritual Direction and a massage therapist.

Providence Villa

Providence Villa, a ministry of hospitality, is located on 16-acres of woodland at 10745 Babcock Boulevard in Gibsonia, PA, about 5 miles from Providence Heights. The Villa invites individuals and small groups of all faiths who seek a reflective environment and an atmosphere of quiet and tranquility to meet and plan, pray and reflect, rest and relax, or just appreciate the beauty of nature and enjoy an oasis in the heart of the North Hills.



Providence Villa welcomes all who seek their unique life journey through private prayer, retreat, and learning. Groups are welcome for meetings, support, seminars, planning sessions, and liturgy. The Villa has several meeting areas, 16 bedrooms, a kitchen, library, formal dining room, a small cottage and food service. Spiritual Direction is available.



Social Services

In keeping with the Community's justice focus to serve the needs of the most vulnerable, the Sisters operate three social service agencies.

Providence Connections, Inc.

Providence Connections, Inc., located on Pittsburgh's North Side, was formed in 1994 after the Sisters of Divine Providence sold Divine Providence Hospital to Pittsburgh Mercy Health System. The Community wanted to maintain a connection to this Pittsburgh neighborhood, and to focus on the struggling parents who need support services to enable them to provide for their families. Providence Connections is the umbrella corporation under which the Providence Family Support Center operates.



Providence Family Support Center offers family programming and support that is designed to strengthen children and parents and to empower them to reach their highest potential. PFSC is part of the national family support movement committed to promoting healthy families. The focus of PFSC is on prevention, and is specifically intended to fill the gaps that many families experience in their support systems. Family support is not intended to be only for "at risk" families; it assumes that every family deserves help, support and access to resources.



PFSC offers counseling, women's programming, job training, and literacy and parenting workshops. Services include parent education; child care; pre-school and the Clubhouse for Kids, which offers an after-school enrichment program, summer day camp, before-school care and special programming on in-service days; plus programs for teens and entire families.

La Posada Providencia

La Posada Providencia answers the Gospel call to "welcome the stranger." Founded in 1989 by Sister Carolyn (now Hilary) Hooks, CDP, La Posada provides a safe, nurturing environment to immigrants, asylees and asylum seekers who have come to the United States seeking safety, protection and a better life. All shelter residents are in the process of seeking legal refuge in this country.

Located in the lower Rio Grand Valley of South Texas, La Posada has welcomed over 5,400 people from more than 70 countries. The goals extend beyond shelter to helping the clients adjust quickly to the United States culture. Clients participate in life skills and English language lessons and receive personalized case management and transportation.



Room at the Inn

Room at the Inn, a shelter for homeless women and families in St. Louis County, MO, has been sponsored by the Sisters of Divine Providence since 1993 and is located at Providence Center.



Room at the Inn operates with a day site and nearly 60 night sites. During the day, clients use the shelter's phone, shower, laundry and computer facilities. They attend classes or see the visiting nurse. They use the kitchen or choose from stockpiles of clothing and personal care items. Most importantly, they work with the client coordinator to plan their return to self-reliance and receive referrals to other agencies.

At night, Room at the Inn's interfaith partners welcome participants to their churches. The night-site hosts provide transportation, meals, shelter and companionship. Room at the Inn enables the compassionate people of St. Louis County to do something concrete and hands-on to help their less-fortunate neighbors.

Closing Prayer

Option 1

All: Provident God, You call us to be more Than we can ask or even imagine.
Help us to uncover the rich inner life that is ours.
Surprise us with hidden treasures we never knew we had.
Give us the courage to uncover the mystic within ourselves.
And, show us the way of wisdom as we struggle to leave this world
a better place.

Amen

Option 2

All: We give thank to you, Living God, the source of love;
Whose light shines forth throughout the universe.

Let our hearts be clear and simple, and our souls filled with Your light.
With You we can do all things, into Your heart we commend our souls.

Amen

