



# UNIVERSITY OF PROVIDENCE

CAMPUS MINISTRY

February 2, 2025  
Presentation of the Lord  
Candlemas

**Campus Ministry**  
All are welcome. All belong.  
Follow us on Instagram

Our handle: @UPcampusmin  
Stay informed throughout the week for all our offerings!



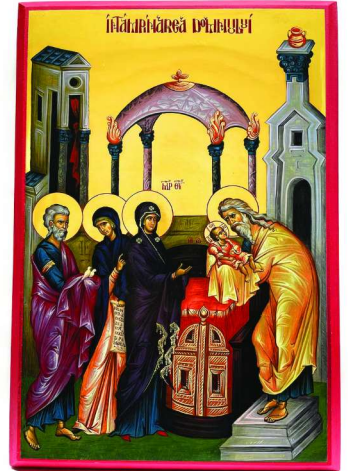
## Campus Ministry Notes

- Mark your calendar: **Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>** is the birthday of Blessed Emilie Gamelin, the foundress of the Sisters of Providence. We will celebrate *Mass that day at 11:30 am followed by a campus wide luncheon* at the UC. All are invited to celebrate, not only Blessed Emilie's birthday, but also the witness her community has been in serving those in need and in establishing this great university.
- Faith Doing Justice** is the newest RSO on campus. They will be holding events throughout the semester to raise awareness on issues of injustice. Their meetings are on *Thursdays at Noon*. Interested in advocating for justice through the lens of faith? Contact Ashley: aheinrich@uprovidence.edu.



## Candlemas

Hard to believe it has been forty days since we celebrated the Incarnation at Christmas, and yet, here we are. Most Christian households put away all their Christmas decorations at the end of the season, but many will leave out their nativity set. There is a connection between the birth of our Lord and his presentation in the temple. Even though it is not part of the Christmas season, it is the last feast on the liturgical calendar where we celebrate Jesus as an infant.



It is in the reading from Luke's gospel where we meet our friends Simeon and Anna. They are depicted in this icon. Simeon is holding the child Jesus and Anna is between Mary and Joseph. It is the beautiful canticle of Simeon that we pray each night during night prayer. It is called the *Nunc Dimittis*. It means "now you let depart." Read these words again that we heard in the gospel:

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace;  
your word has been fulfilled:  
my own eyes have seen the salvation  
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:  
a light to reveal you to the nations  
and the glory of your people Israel.

When we pray at night we give thanks to God for his goodness and for his providential care. However, it is also a time to reflect on how we have accepted God's will; how we accept our own death. If we hold the light of Christ for ourselves and others we indeed have nothing to fear.

Simeon, shares with Mary the first of her seven sorrows. A foreshadowing of the cross. And yet, in the words "a light to reveal you to the nations" we have Easter, the glorious feast of light when at the Easter vigil we celebrate the light of Christ breaking into the darkness and conquering death and sin. Today's feast is a great bridge between Christmas and Easter.



## SMALL GROUPS

Tuesdays @ 7 pm

Thursdays @ 6 pm (Women Only)

Campus Ministry Office



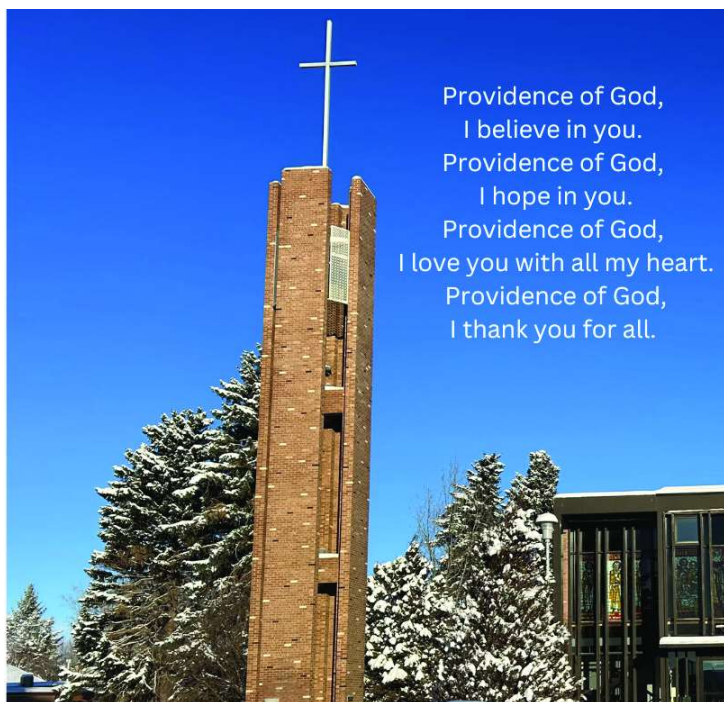
Thursday, February 6th

7:00 pm

Trinitas Chapel

Reflection: ***Be Not Afraid***

Roy Lanham, Campus Minister



Providence of God,  
I believe in you.  
Providence of God,  
I hope in you.  
Providence of God,  
I love you with all my heart.  
Providence of God,  
I thank you for all.

## A View from My Window

As most of you are aware I started here on September 30<sup>th</sup>. As of Sunday, I have been here four months and two days. When taking a job most places have a probationary period for their employees. Here at UP it is six months. My probation ends on April 1<sup>st</sup> (no fooling). The hope is six months is enough time for the employer to make sure you are the right fit.

I must have a good feeling about what my boss thinks, because my wife and I closed on a house this past Thursday. Yes, indeed. It is a cute place not far from campus with a view of the golden arches from one of the bedroom windows. I get hungry every time I look out that pane of glass.

During the closing, I realized how often in our lives we take a step in faith. We trust that things will work out. Most of the time they do, but each of us know people in our lives where that has been not the case. As we are well aware from this past week, as we mourn the victims from the deadly plane/helicopter crash.

And yet, like Simeon and Anna we trust. Neither one of them was wearing rose colored glasses as they awaited the light. They longed for what God had promised. They knew he would be faithful. God also knew there would be a price to fulfill his covenant with us. Simeon alludes to it with Mary; the first of her seven sorrows. What does Mary and Joseph do with this information? They go home to Nazareth and raise a son. They trust.

It is what we do as well. A midst the images of devastation we see each day from around the world, we trust in a God who brings light, peace and healing to the darkest corners of our lives.

Peace, Roy

## Labre Ministry



Throughout the cold weather months the Great Falls community in coordination with Housed Great Falls provides a warming center with a meal at the First Methodist Church on Second Ave. N. It is open from 5:30-9:30 pm. U.P. is committed to assisting with the *Cold Weather Drop-In on Monday evenings (5:30 - 9:30 pm)*. We need folks to either provide a meal for 30-35 people and/or come and serve from 5:30 - 7:30 pm or 7:30 - 9:30 pm. You can work with others on providing the meal. We are setting up teams to rotate in each week.

Interested? Email Matt Pietropaoli:  
[matthew.pietropaoli@uprovidence.edu](mailto:matthew.pietropaoli@uprovidence.edu)