



St. Emily de Rodat

September 19

Who was St. Emily De Rodat?

Saint Emily de Rodat was a French religious sister remembered for her dedication to the education of young women and devout service to God. Also known as Emilie or Émilie de Rodat, she was a founder of the Congregation of the Holy Family of Villefranche. Born on September 6, 1787, in Rodez, France, she dedicated her life to God and the education of young girls, particularly those from poor and neglected backgrounds.

Growing up in a devoted Catholic family, Emily developed a deep faith and a strong desire to help others. Despite facing opposition from her family, who wanted her to get married, Emily pursued a religious vocation, knowing it to be her true calling. At the age of 21, she entered the Sisters of the Holy Family in Rodez, where she dedicated herself to the education and care of children.

Inspired by her experiences teaching in the countryside, Emily realized the urgent need for education among young girls from unwealthy backgrounds. In 1815, she founded the Congregation of the Holy Family of Villefranche, with the main objective of providing education and spiritual guidance to young girls in efforts to build a brighter future for everyone.

Under Emily's leadership, the congregation grew and set up schools all throughout France. The main focus of the sisters was centred on nurturing the spiritual, intellectual and moral development of their students, inspiring in them the values of faith, compassion and service to others.

Primarily known for her dedication, humility and unwavering commitment to her calling, Emily led a life by example, simplicity and selflessness. Specifically, her deep prayer and devotion to the Holy Family were central to her spiritual journey and the path of her congregation.

Throughout her life, Emily faced numerous challenges and trials, including financial difficulties and health issues. However, she persevered, relying on her faith and trust in God. Despite her humble beginnings, Emily's work and the impact of her congregation spread beyond France, reaching other parts of Europe and even the Americas.

Saint Emily de Rodat was beatified by Pope Pius XII in 1950, who recognized her exceptional and exemplary life of holiness and her significant contributions to education and the spiritual formation of young girls. Even to this day, she serves as an inspiration to all who seek to serve God and their neighbours with love and compassion, particularly in the field of education and the care of those who are less privileged.

More information: [Click Here!](#)

St. Emily CES Website [Click Here](#)



Quotes

"I told them to send their children to me and that I would educate them myself. I would be a teacher for the poor."

"God speaks to His friends whenever He wants, all times and places are suitable for prayer. In the garden as much as in the Church, you can pray, you can unite yourself with Him and hear His voice."

"I was 16 years of age when I learned to know Our Lord. This experience overwhelmed me and I wanted God and only God."

Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;

Almighty and Eternal Father,
Giver of all Gifts,
show us Your mercy, and grant, we ask You,
through the merits of Your faithful servant, St. Emily de Rodat,
that all who invoke her intercession may obtain what they desire
when it is in harmony with Your Holy Will.

O Lord Jesus Christ,
Savior of the world,
mindful of Your bountiful goodness and love,
we beg You, through St. Emily's intense devotion to the Holy Family of Jesus,
to place our parish family under the mantle of their divine protection
and the care of our saintly patroness.

O God, the Holy Spirit, Fountain of Light and Truth, through the ardent zeal of Your humble servant, St. Emily de Rodat, grant us Your all-powerful aid in our necessities, sanctify our souls and fill our minds with Divine Light that we may see the Holy Will of God in all things.

Dear St. Emily de Rodat,
beloved patroness of parishes and schools,
we pray that our parish family may imitate your saintly virtues,
striving to bring Christ's mercy and love to each person we encounter today and always.
Look to us with compassionate eyes,
and in all our necessities,
pray before the throne of Almighty God to help us, watch over us and
grant us only what we truly need to attain eternal life.
We make these and all our prayers, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Emily de Rodat, pray for us!

Amen

Patron Saint

Single Woman

Teachers &
Educators

Family

Care of the
Vulnerable

Poverty





York Catholic District School Board



FEAST DAY:
September 19

SCHOOL LOCATION:
Woodbridge, ON

*"Put all your trust in God
and preserve a holy
cheer."*

–St. Emily de Rodat

PATRON SAINT OF:

- Poverty
- Family
- Single Woman
- People that care of the Vulnerable
- Teachers & Educators

St. Emily

