



GIVING THANKS FOR 80 YEARS OF RELIGIOUS LIFE



SAINT JOHN, N.B. – Sister Ludovin Gallivan celebrated her 80th anniversary of religious life Sept. 17, 2017 during a eucharistic liturgy at Carmel Chapel here. She was surrounded by other Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception (SCIC), staff, friends and family members from Woodstock and Deerville, N.B. Father Aaron Knox presided and offered the homily. Celebrations continued at Ruth Ross Residence where Sr. Ludovin resides.

“Thank you . . . for your wise counsel and presence over many years,” said Sr. Mary Beth McCurdy, SCIC congregational leader. “We remember what the prophet Zephaniah said: ‘God dances with joy over you, as on a day of festival.’ And our spirits dance with you, too . . . Praise God!”

Originally from Deerville, Sr. Ludovin entered the SCIC in Saint John in 1937, taking the name Sr. Mary Cecilia. A singer and musician, she taught piano and violin in Fredericton, Johnville, Moncton, Saint John and St. Stephen, N.B., as well as Digby, N.S. She also offered cooking ministry at various SCIC missions.

Fondly known as “Sr. Ludie,” she cared for girls at the former St. Patrick’s Orphanage and for elderly residents of the Mater Misericordiae Home in Saint John. From 1977-97, she offered parish ministry in Fredericton and Johnville before returning to Saint John.

Sr. Ludie continues to be respected and loved for her kindness, generosity and deep faith. With her consent, Sr. Mary Beth quoted from a recent response she gave to an invitation asking Sisters how God and humanity are calling SCIC today.

“‘Trust the Lord with all your heart’ is the sign on my door and has inspired me . . . And every day I need to renew my trust in the One who knows me.” Sr. Mary Beth added that “this wise elder” also wrote, ‘We must tend the fire in these ashes and become the searing presence of God’s Spirit in the world.’” *(Photo: Sr. Pat Poole, SCIC)*