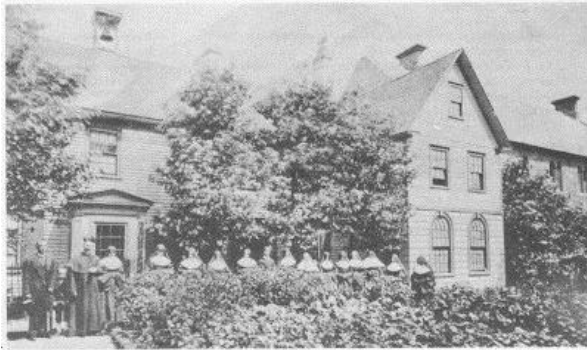




**Closing of St. Patrick's Convent
St. John's, NL Canada
September 11, 2016
After 160 Years**



St. Patrick's Convent 1856

Sunday, September 11th we gathered at St. Patrick's Convent in St. John's for a moving Closing Ritual and then with the parishioners for a Thanksgiving Liturgy. Together we remembered, celebrated and gave thanks for 160 years in Ministry amongst and in partnership with the people of the St. Patrick's Parish.

On behalf of the people of the Parish, one of the parishioner's own personal and touching reflections took us on a journey down through the years, a compliment to a tribute printed in this weekend's Parish Bulletin.



In her address at the end of the Liturgy Sister Betty Rae beautifully captured both the history and the deeper human story.



Amidst the warmth and gratitude could be felt a sense of sadness, tempered as it was by the anticipation of the something new that awaits. As the Liturgy concluded, we extended hands in blessing to all those present and so many others there in spirit.

A formal announcement of the repurposing of the Convent will be made the end of October when details have been officially confirmed.

The Liturgy celebration naturally overflowed into a social in the Parish Centre where stories continued to be shared, memories rekindled, gratitude voiced yet again, amidst eager anticipation of the newness that awaits in the continuing unfolding of God's dream.



As we have all often prayed,
"For all that has been, "Thanks!" For all that will be, "Yes!"

