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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2, 2024

THE SISTERS OF CHARITY - HALIFAX CELEBRATE 175 YEARS OF PRESENCE AND MINISTRY

In 2024, the Sisters of Charity – Halifax celebrate 175 years as a religious Congregation. In 1849, the Sisters of Charity of New York missioned four Sisters to Halifax, Nova Scotia. Their arrival on May 11, 1849 on a Halifax wharf is our foundational moment. We began teaching and established an orphanage and hospital. As our Congregation grew from four Sisters to over 2500 professed Sisters, we expanded our ministries of teaching and healing throughout Nova Scotia, other provinces in Canada, the United States and Bermuda, Peru, the Dominican Republic, Belize and the continent of Africa.

Today our 175-year legacy continues. Although we are fewer and less visible, we stand together loved and energized by God's Spirit. We respond to the cries of people living in poverty--across borders, cultures and languages. We face the challenges that threaten this planet. We respond to evolving ways of seeing the world and the flourishing of all life. Our mission continues as we celebrate and give thanks for 175 years of service.

"Charity is enveloped with faith and hope. We have been charity for 175 years and we will continue to be charity. We will give joyful witness to love with our every breath," says Sister Margaret Mary Fitzpatrick, Congregational Leader.

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Important Congregational Dates 1849 - 2024
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1849	Sisters of Charity of New York opened a school and cared for orphans in Halifax, Nova Scotia
1856	Sisters of Charity - Halifax became an independent Congregation
1864	School opened in Bathurst, New Brunswick
1873	Motherhouse and Mount Saint Vincent Academy opened in Rockingham, NS
1883	School opened in Cape Breton, NS
1886	Halifax Infirmary opened
1887	School opened in Massachusetts
1890	School opened in Bermuda
1896	School opened in Arnprior, Ontario
1908	Hospital opened in Cape Breton, NS
1923	School opened in British Columbia
1924	School opened in New York
1925	School opened in Alberta
1927	School opened in the State of Washington
1927 - 1930	Hospitals opened in Alberta
1930	School opened in New Jersey
1935	School opened in Quebec
1957	School opened in New Hampshire
1962 - 1965	Vatican Council II: major changes in religious life; many new ministries
1968	Mission opened in Peru
1969	Mission opened in Dominican Republic
1970	Mission opened in North West Territories
1972	Mission opened in Yukon
1988	Transfer of Mount Saint Vincent University to Board of Directors
2008	Closure of Mount Saint Vincent Motherhouse
2020	Congregation begins the process of completion
2024	Celebrating 175 years of giving joyful witness to love