

Dedication of The Sisters of Charity of Ottawa Legacy Park



The sign that greets visitors to the park

Although this celebration had been scheduled for a year, it was postponed due to the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic. The ceremony and dedication of the park at the D'Youville Life and Wellness Community honoring the legacy of the Sisters of Charity of Ottawa actually took place in the afternoon of June 24, 2021 under a blue sky and a warm sun.

The program began with a word of welcome from the President and Chief Executive Officer, Mrs. Naomi Prendergast. Mrs. Alison Kalman, chair of the D'Youville Foundation Board, offered an invocation and was followed by Mr. Joseph Clermont, chair of the Board of Trustees, who highlighted all that the Congregation had brought to the development of the campus over the past 60 years.

Sr. Pr scille Malo, Provincial Animator, and Sponsor representative since 2001 borrowed a text attributed to St. Teresa of Avila – a gracious gesture to the Carmelites who have taken on the sponsorship and who were present in the person of Sr. Mary Mark Randall, O.Carm, former Prioress General :

“Let nothing disturb you. Let nothing frighten you. All things are passing away, God never changes. Patience obtains all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices.”

Following the example of the Venerable Elisabeth Bruy re, that daring woman, Sr. Pr scille recounted the various steps that had shaped the multiple services offered on the campus, emphasizing her unwavering trust in divine Providence which provides for every detail, even to the point of including a "park"! She thanked all who were part of making the project a reality, acknowledging the Carmelites who will not only continue the mission but will prolong the dream.



Sr. Pr scille speaking during the dedication

Mrs. Debbie Scionti, Director of Mission and Values, brought the program to a close with a blessing prayer for the park, a place of refreshment and silence which, in its own way, will extend the presence and memory of the Sisters for years to come.



A beautiful bouquet of varied flowers was presented to each of the three local communities and tasty biscuits in the shape of “marguerites” were served as refreshment.

Photo : Front row : Sisters Gertrude Coutu, Lucille Mire, Florence Demers, Th r se Forest, C cile Duquette
Back row : Sisters C cile Cloutier, Jeanne Archambault, Pr scille Malo, Pauline Leblanc
Absent : Sr. Marie d'Entremont, a resident in the Special Care Unit at d'Youville Senior Care Center

