

*Monica Mary McNeill (O'Keefe)
Ixthus, PE*



Monica died peacefully surrounded by her children and grandchildren on January 14th, 2014 in Summerside, PEI at the age of 81. Born in Grand Falls, NL, Monica continued her education in Halifax, N.S. where she met and married Tanton McNeill and moved to PEI where they raised their cherished ten children.

Throughout her married life, Monica was a faithful member and active participant in various ministries at St. Paul's Parish. As well, she served on Diocesan committees such as the Social Action Committee, Latin American Mission Program, and Development and Peace.

As her children became older, Monica returned to outside employment and became president of her workplace union. Keenly aware of the obstacles facing women in the workplace, church and educational system, she found support with like-minded women in the Catholic Network for Women's Equality. Her wonderful sense of humour highlighted by her "Newfoundland witticism" was second to none and often served to soften the tone of an intense discussion.

From the day Monica was introduced to Christian Life Community almost 30 years ago, she became a committed, faithful and wise companion of CLC Ixthus. The vision presented by the CLC General Principles meshed well with her understanding of the Good News which she was already committed to: being an agent of change, living a life of love and justice. Not needing to be the centre of attention, Monica became known for taking time for "pondering" the word or situation and returning with wise insight that often served as a beacon for CLC action.

During the last three years, Monica bore her increasing dementia with the same grace that she lived life and continued to participate in CLC Ixthus' life and activities to the best of her abilities. Her spirit continues to be an influence and stronghold in our memories as we continue the journey.

