

## **St. Joseph's District Hospital**

Srs. M. Pius Guinan, Alphonsus Preston, Vianney Nealon, Maureen McDonnell, Mary Heffernan and Martha Hegarty ministered there as qualified nurses. Sisters Christopher Duggan and Bernadette Waters gave invaluable service as cooks. Sr. M. Alphonsus Preston was appointed Matron in the early 1950's. Sr. Maureen McDonnell was appointed Matron in 1987 and when she retired in 2004, she was the last Sister ministering there. Sr. Eva Gaughan was Clerical Employee in the hospital at the full-time service of doctors and other Staff, in the 1960's and 1970's. The priests from St. Muredach's College faithfully celebrated Eucharist every morning in what was known as the Little Convent, as a service to the Sisters who lived there. Eucharist was also celebrated in the Little Convent every Saturday night, with Constance McGinley providing the music. Local neighbours attended and the Mass was relayed through speakers for the benefit of patients. Ms. Maria Alexander is the Present Director of St. Joseph's District Hospital, Ballina.