

Newport, Co Mayo

They worked in the Convent Primary School and later in the new Holy Family School catering for the former Convent and Boys' Primary Schools. A Secondary Co-Educational Secondary was requested by the Newport Development Committee. Archbishop Joseph Walsh consented on condition that it would be operated by the Sisters of Mercy. It opened on 2nd September, 1956 and the Principal, Sr. Mechtilde Donoghue, welcomed the first Newport pupils. It expanded in numbers until the introduction to "Free Transport" when students got a bus to Westport each day. The school closed in 1969.

In 1977, Newport Convent was vacated and Srs. Immaculata Brady, Concilio Murphy and Raymund Nolan moved to rented accommodation in Castlebar Street, where they lived for over thirty years. Srs. Concilio and Immaculata continued teaching in the Primary School until retirement and were very involved in the life of the parish. They made a great contribution to Foróige. Following the Ryan Report, the Convent and site was donated to St. Dominic's Housing Association for affordable housing. A site was also given to Western Care Association. Time wrought its changes with the death of Sr. Consilio and the move of Sr. Raymond to Árd Bhríde. Sister Immaculata Brady was the last Sister of Mercy to live in Newport. By gracious serendipity, she was allocated one of the apartments that had been made in the former convent building. She finally moved to Teach Mhuire in Castlebar in 2017.