

# Sr. Lucy Daigle, DW

## Sister Maxime de la Ste. Famille

### 4/16/15 – 1/3/18



Because you are God's chosen one, clothe yourself with heartfelt mercy, with kindness, humility, meekness and patience. These words taken from the reading on the feast of the Holy Family describe our Sister Lucy, Sister Maxime de la Ste Famille. Today we remember and celebrate Sr. Lucy, our oldest Daughter of Wisdom in the United States and the second oldest in our Congregation.

Sister Lucy was born in 1915 in Daigle, Maine, the youngest of the five children of Maxime and Delia Daigle. Though her mother died when she was a young child she was surrounded with the love of her father and her siblings. All throughout her life she shared this love with the children she ministered to and the people she worked with. She

had very happy memories. She often told me how she would sit on her father's lap and he would have candy hidden in his pocket for her. At 102 years of age she still loved the wonderful fudge that her niece Lou Mae made for her. After receiving a box, she ate it all in one day. She also remembered the many summers she spent in northern Maine with her sister Emma and her brother Silvio and their families.

Lucy attended our Lady of Wisdom High School in St. Agathe and after graduation entered the congregation of the Daughters of Wisdom in Ottawa, Canada. After profession she studied nursing at St. Justine's Hospital in Canada and then for the next thirty one years she ministered to the children with polio at St. Charles Hospital in Port Jefferson. Her love of the children was evident and the children loved her in return. To quote Sr. Virginia Cunniff, a former patient, "it was wonderful to meet this gentle caring sister who possessed a smile that could warm the heart of anyone and make us feel good about ourselves". Each Christmas she received the gift of a beautiful poinsettia from a former patient until he died last year.



**Sr. Lucy at 101 with her niece Lou Mae Albert.**



For the next thirty years Lucy ministered at St. Mary's Infant Home in Norfolk, Virginia. She worked with the severely disabled babies and young children there until 1987 and then became the receptionist. Her gracious presence and wonderful smile made everyone feel welcome. The CEO at St. Mary's never wanted her to retire. She remembered the former patients and their families. When they returned they would go to see Sister Lucy.

Sister Lucy has spent the last 8 years of her life at Marie Regina Residence where she was lovingly cared for by the staff. Her graciousness, gentleness, and peace have remained with her. I

was always welcomed by a strong squeeze of her hand and a wonderful smile. Since I have come to know her, I have never heard a complaint



from her. She had an inner strength and had the courage to speak what she thought. At 102 she told two of the other residents who were arguing to stop that they were not being kind.



**Sr. Anne Scahill and Sr. Lucy**

Sr. Lucy had a spirit of inner joy and peace that was contagious. She has been an inspiration and a model with her humility and her strong faith. We are grateful for the gift of Sister Lucy and I know that I, along with our sisters

and her family, will miss her deeply.

**Sr. Anne Scahill, DW**