



Monsignor William H. Shannon blesses Sister Eleanor Seiderwand at the beginning of the sending ceremony.



Sister Rosemary Burgio contemplates on the post-Communion reflection.

## SSJ Sending Ceremony celebrates call to follow in Christ's ministry

The Sisters of St. Joseph's Sending Ceremony on Saturday, Oct. 26, was a celebration of community and faith in the Lord's guidance. The ceremony is the official affirmation of each sister's ministry for the coming year.

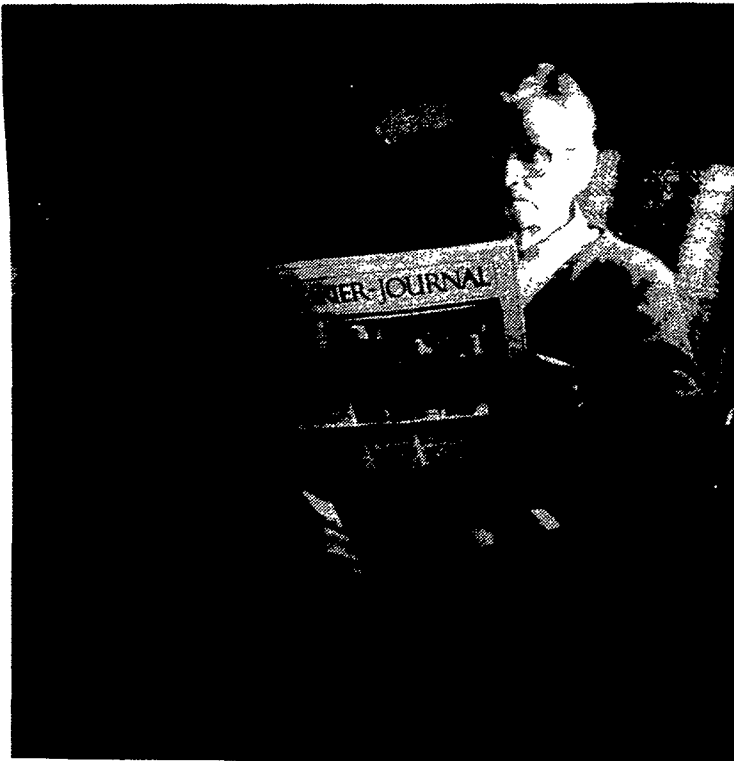
The liturgy in the motherhouse chapel capped a day of events focused on the call to follow Jesus wherever He may lead. In his homily, Monsignor William H. Shannon spoke of moments of enlightenment in a faith community, times at which "we come to see ever so clearly what we have never understood before." He noted that such a community "doesn't come without struggle and suffering. As soon as we cease to

struggle, it (the faith community) ceases to be there.

In her post-Communion reflection, Sister Elizabeth Ann LeValley, superior general of the order, picked up on the theme of a continuously developing faith community and reviewed the history of the order, from its roots in France to its current mission. Through renewal as an apostolic order, she said, the Sisters of St. Joseph attempted to combine the virtues of the cloister with charity to neighbor.

"We must clearly situate ourselves in the present and look to the future," she said, noting that the founding of community is a constant process.

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Sister Kathleen Cosgrove, left, and Sister Lorraine Julien wait for their cue to lead the processional into the motherhouse chapel.



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