

*For those who have been faithful, O Lord,  
 fe is not ended, but merely changed.*

August 7, 1976

Dear Sisters,

Having shortly before received Holy Communion, which was to be her Viaticum, Sister M. Verona Filicky died peacefully on Friday, August 6, at 8:35 a.m. It was the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord. The Second Letter of Peter had advised Christians to carry the glorious majesty of Jesus "as a lamp shining in a dark place until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts." For Sister Verona, in the 76th year of Christian life and the 59th year of religious life, "The Day" had finally dawned. We can only imagine her joy as she, too, must now be affirming, "Lord, it is good for me to be here!"

Sister Verona was born in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, on December 10, 1900, the daughter of John and Anna Filicky, and was baptized Mary in St. Stephen Church. She entered the postulancy on September 7, 1916. The Feast of St. Clare, August 12, marked the beginning of her novitiate in 1916, her first profession in 1919, and her final profession in 1923. In June, 1969, she celebrated her Golden Jubilee.

Sister Verona was a dedicated teacher for 53 years, all of which were spent in eight Illinois schools, mostly in the upper grades: St. Stephen, Streator; Holy Cross and St. Joseph, Joliet; Assumption, Sacred Heart, and St. Francis Xavier, Chicago; St. Mary, Des Plaines; and St. Rita, Aurora. She had retired to Our Lady of Angels in 1971 where she actively participated until her final illness began in June.

It was a joyous family reunion that we witnessed this past month as her brother Stephen came from his home in Johnstown to join Sister William at the bedside of their sister. To both of them and to the nieces and nephews, we offer our deep sympathy and promise the support of our prayer.

Sister Verona had often told Sister William that she would like the Sisters to "sing a lot of Alleluias" at her funeral Mass. In this exultant spirit, the Mass will be concelebrated at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home on Sunday, August 8, at 7:00 p.m., by two of her former students, Father George Klepec and Father Eugene Bucciferro, and the chaplain of Our Lady of Angels, Father Casimir Lutomski. Burial will be in Resurrection Cemetery, Lockport, on Monday morning, August 9.

We who enjoyed the warm smile and pleasant disposition of Sister Verona throughout her life as our sister were not surprised to witness her cheerful acceptance of God's will for her in the weeks of her final illness. We thank God for the gift she has been to us.

Devotedly in Christ,

THE GOVERNING BOARD

