

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

September 3, 1977

Dear Sisters,

Sister M. Anthony Heckmueller had lived the life of service to the Lord for more than 65 years in our Franciscan Congregation when He called her to Himself this day, September 3, at 12:10 p.m.

Born in Hungary on November 12, 1893, she was given the name of Eva at her Baptism. She was the only daughter of Adam and Anna Schreiber Heckmueller. She had four brothers, two of whom preceded her in death.

Sister Anthony had been a resident at Our Lady of Angels since 1963, spending the last eight years as a patient in the Infirmary. Previously, she had been missioned as a cook and homemaker at numerous missions since her second-year of novitiate in 1913. Her life of service extended to five states: Illinois (St. Joseph, St. John the Baptist, Guardian Angel Home, and Our Lady of Angels, Joliet; St. Francis de Sales, St. Pascal, St. Francis Xavier, St. Francis of Assisi, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Chicago; St. Mary, Rock Island; St. Joseph, Pesotum; Sacred Heart, Hubbard Woods; SS. Peter and Paul, Leonore; St. Michael, Sigel; St. Stephen, Streator; and St. Joseph, Freeport); Ohio (St. Mary, Immaculate Conception, and Corpus Christi, Columbus; St. Joseph, Galion; St. Michael, Worthington; Most Pure Heart of Mary, Shelby); Wisconsin (St. Francis Assisi, Red Cliff); Missouri (St. Denis, Benton); and Pennsylvania (St. Stephen, Johnstown).

One does not read through the long list of places where Sister Anthony was missioned without being impressed both by the immense service she rendered to so many of our Sisters for so many years and by her readiness to respond in obedience to wherever a need was indicated. And if one wonders how such a record is possible, one further considers the spirit of prayer that permeated her very life. Her service during the last eight years of illness in the Infirmary testifies to this. Seemingly incapacitated, bearing the burden of both loss of vision and difficulty in hearing, she used her alert mind to continue her habit of fidelity to prayer. She loved to say the Rosary, and many times daily she would finger the white beads. Her "being at home" with God is the key to the fidelity with which she served so many years as homemaker for our Sisters.

We offer our sympathy and promise our prayer to her relatives. Sister Anthony is survived by three brothers, Adam of Blue River, Wisconsin; Michael and Jake of Faith, South Dakota; and by two nephews, Chris of Blue River, Wisconsin, and William of Chicago.

On Monday, September 5, at 3:00 p.m., a Scripture Service will be held at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home. Reverend James Healy, chaplain of Our Lady of Angels, will celebrate the Mass of Christian Burial on Monday, September 5, at 7:00 p.m. Burial will be at 10:00 on the morning of Tuesday, September 6, at Resurrection Cemetery.

May our dear Sister Anthony receive the reward promised her on the day of her First Profession, August 12, 1914: Life Everlasting.

Devotedly in Christ,
THE GOVERNING BOARD

