

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

March 16, 1976

Dear Sisters,

In the early quiet hour of 1:10 a.m. of March 16, Death came to call Sister Matthew to Eternal Life. Many long hours she had waited with resignation, together with her sister and our Sister, Sister Norma, for this last and triumphant step.

Recently on the Form for Choice of Ministry, dated March 5, 1976, the Form that had been requested from each Sister of the Congregation by the Governing Board, the first part read as follows: After careful reflection and discernment, I wish to request the following ministry for 1976-77: Kind of Ministry - Sister Matthew wrote, "Accepting the Will of God in my terminal illness." She died as she had endeavored to live - always wanting to do what was God's will for her.

Sister was in her 70th year of her life and in the 54th year of her religious life. Sister Matthew was born in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, on May 24, 1906, and was baptized in St. Stephen's Church. She attended St. Stephen School, Johnstown, and later St. Francis Academy, Joliet, Illinois. On September 7, 1921, she entered the postulancy of our Congregation, made first vows on August 12, 1924, and perpetual vows on August 12, 1927. She celebrated her Golden Jubilee in June, 1974.

Sister's first mission assignment was teacher and organist at St. Mary's, Columbus, Ohio, in 1923. Sister spent all of her professed life as classroom teacher, organist, CCD Instructor, and also as Principal and Superior. She was teacher-organist in many of the various missions: in Streator, Chicago, Kankakee, Joliet, Pesotum, Elgin, Rock Island, Cleveland, Bayfield, and Granville. Her last eleven years have been in her own hometown, Johnstown.

Sister Matthew is survived by two Sisters: Sister Norma Jansen and Rose (Mrs. Anthony Bishop) of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, and two brothers: Robert of Johnstown and Charles of Phoenix, Arizona. To them we offer our sympathy and understanding.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday, March 18, 1976, by Rev. Charles Reuter, OFM at 7:30 p.m. Burial will be in Resurrection Cemetery, Lockport on Friday, March 19 at 9 a.m.

We remember Sister as being a very kind, gracious, and soft-spoken individual. She was a person of perseverance and constancy. We, her Sisters, are grateful for her life and example. We have been richer for having lived with her.

Devotedly in Christ,

THE GOVERNING BOARD

