

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

November 17, 1979

Dear Sisters,

On Friday morning, November 16, at 5:20, Sister M. Lucita Muller died in the infirmary of Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home where she had been confined these past six weeks. Her 81st birthday was celebrated just this month on November 6.

Sister Lucita was born in 1898 of Henry and Anna (Frankenberg) Mueller in the little farming community of Tonica, Illinois. She was christened Catharine at her Baptism in SS. Peter and Paul Church, Richland. She entered the postulancy of our Congregation from SS. Peter and Paul Church, Leonore, on February 18, 1918, and began her novitiate on August 12, 1918. Sister Lucita, who pronounced her first vows in 1920 and her final vows in 1923, was a member of the 1980 Diamond Jubilee class.

The Sisters who had lived with Sister Lucita described her as "very kind," "always helpful and thoughtful of others," "unassuming," and "gentle." The well loved hymn by Rev. Carey Landry, "Hail Mary: Gentle Woman" could have been her theme song, said one of them. The hymn concludes with the lines: "Blessed they with peaceful spirits. Blessed they with gentle hearts."

Her calm disposition she took to the classroom during the 43 years she taught children in grades 2 through 6. Thirteen different schools received her ministry: St. John and Guardian Angel Home (Joliet); SS. Peter and Paul (Leonore); St. Michael (Sigel); St. Stephen (Streator); St. Clement, St. Francis Xavier, St. Boniface, St. Ludmilla, and St. Pascal (Chicago); Most Pure Heart of Mary (Shelby); Corpus Christi Columbus; and Divine Savior (Norridge). In 1973 Sister was hospitalized following a massive heart attack and was then transferred to Our Lady of Angels for nursing care. Although her heart remained physically weakened throughout the rest of her life, she nevertheless improved remarkably and was able to partake in various activities at Our Lady of Angels until recently. For years one of her charitable "hobbies" was collecting discarded eyeglasses which she then would send to her Franciscan missionary nephew, Father Robert Mizicko in Brazil.

Sister Lucita came from a deeply religious family. Like her, several in her relationship devoted their lives to the service of the Gospel. Sister Juanita Mizicko, who died on February 27, 1970, was her niece. Sister M. Magdalene Schmitt, also a member of our Congregation, is her first cousin. Father Carroll Mizicko, OFM, and Father Donald Gross, who will concelebrate the Mass of Resurrection, are two other priest-nephews of Sister Lucita. To all who survive her, especially her sister Mrs. Hildegard Mizicko, of Streator, and her brother Henry, of Grand Ridge, as well as her many nieces and nephews, we extend our sympathy, as also to all the Sisters who loved Sister Lucita in life.

The wake will be held from 2 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, November 18, at Our Lady of Angels with a biblical prayer service at 3:30 p.m. and the Mass of Resurrection at 7 p.m. the same day. Burial services and interment will be at Resurrection Cemetery, Lockport, on Monday, November 19, at 9:30 a.m.

May our dear Sister Lucita be welcomed into Paradise!

Devotedly yours,
THE GOVERNING BOARD

