

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

October 15, 1973

Dear Sisters,

Shortly after having supper with her Community at Our Lady of Angels on October 13, Sister Mary Ellen (Sebastian) Balchik left earth abruptly for Heaven at approximately 7 p.m. Earlier in the week Sister had suffered a slight stroke. Just before death came on Saturday, Sister spoke to the nurse about dying. Her sudden death was apparently no surprise to her.

Sister entered the Congregation in January, 1914, and made final vows in 1920. For fifty years Sister served in the Catholic Elementary schools. Twenty-six of those years were spent teaching Grades 2 - 5 at St. Stephen's School in Streator, Illinois. She also taught at St. Stephen's, Johnstown; St. Joseph's, Joliet; St. Boniface, Assumption, Sacred Heart, St. Francis Assisi, and Divine Savior in Chicago.

Sister celebrated her Golden Jubilee in 1966 and in 1968 retired to Our Lady of Angels.

Sister Mary Ellen was baptized in St. Stephen's Church, Streator, January 3, 1898, the daughter of Frank Balchik and Anna Cerny, both of Czechoslovakia. She is survived by two sisters, Margaret Balchik and Mrs. Barbara Kauth, both of Streator, and one brother, Frank, of Los Angeles, California.

All the Sisters are invited to celebrate Resurrection with Sister Mary Ellen by attending the Mass of Christian Burial on Monday evening, October 15, at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels. The Funeral will be from Our Lady of Angels on Tuesday morning, October 16, at 9 a.m. Burial will be in Resurrection Cemetery in Lockport, Illinois.

Devotedly in Christ,

THE GOVERNING BOARD

