

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

June 28, 1983

Dear Sisters,

Sister Elvira Bredel retired to Our Lady of Angels thirteen years ago, and during these past several years has been in very frail health. But she had the will to live, and only succumbed to death on the day of her sixtieth jubilee.

Alice Helen M. Bredel always thought she had a vocation to religious life, but she worked until she was nearly twenty-six before venturing into the Congregation. Although she spent a few years in secondary education, practically her entire active ministry was in higher education at the College of St. Francis. Of her thirty-eight years at CSF, she served as librarian for all but nine of them while she was President of CSF.

Sister Elvira was a quiet person, one who knew how to suffer in silence and not harbor bitterness in her heart as a result. She had great loyalty to the Congregation and interest in all its activities. She was a woman of prayer in her religious life, appreciative of the cultural in her private life, and a futuristic dreamer (in the best sense of that word) professionally. As with all dreamers, many hopes and plans did not materialize immediately, but she lived to see her beloved college grow and expand in programs and students, as well as brick and mortar.

Sister was well known in the scholastic world. During her life as librarian and president she published innumerable articles in scholastic journals, presented papers at educators' meetings and served on various committees, particularly in the Catholic Library Association. As her tenure of president of CSF concluded, a member of her Advisory Board, Mr. Hayes Kennedy, wrote to her in the following words:

We shall always remember your constructive contributions to the strength and development of the College of St. Francis. Your sincerity, your thorough analysis of the problems in issue, and your understanding of the need for a practical approach to the problems before us gave the members of your Advisory Board courage and impetus to move forward toward a solution. (August 21, 1962)

As Sister Elvira celebrates her jubilee in Heaven, we who are left behind recall her memory with gratitude. We are appreciative for all she did for the Congregation, and for the individuals whose lives she touched. We offer our sympathy to her brother, Raymond, and her nieces and nephews. May the Lord whom she served give her the joy of His Presence, now and forever.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

THE GOVERNING BOARD



SISTER M. ELVIRA BREDEL, OSF 573

Born: March 14, 1895, Chicago, IL
Baptized: March 22, 1895, St. Boniface Church, Chicago
Parents: John and Rosalia (Stich) Bredel

Postulancy: February 2, 1921
Novitiate: August 12, 1921
First Profession: August 12, 1923
Final Profession: August 12, 1926
Diamond Jubilee: June 26, 1983

Age: 88 years old; in religious life 61 years

Ministry:
1923-26 St. Francis Academy, Joliet, IL
1926-32 St. Mary High School, Columbus, OH
1932-70 College of St. Francis, Joliet, IL
Librarian/Library Science: 1932-53
1962-70
President of CSF: 1953-62
1970-83 Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL

Died: Sunday, June 26, 1983, 4 a.m.
Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home

Wake: Tuesday, June 28, 2-7 p.m., Our Lady of Angels
Prayer Service: Tuesday, June 28, 4:30 p.m.
Mass: Tuesday, June 28, 7:00 p.m.
Burial Services: Wednesday, June 29, 9:00 a.m. from Our Lady of Angels
to Resurrection Cemetery, Lockport

