

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

October 11, 1977

Dear Sisters,

After sixty-six years of professed religious life in our Franciscan Congregation, Sister M. Gregory Brown quietly died at about noon on October 10, 1977, at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet. She was 85 years old.

Sister Gregory was born in Campbellton, New Brunswick, Canada, on August 28, 1892, and received the name Ethel at her Baptism a week later. With their parents, Stephen and Helen Aubé Brown, the family moved to Wisconsin where she was taught by our Sisters in Washburn. It was from Holy Family Parish in Bayfield that she joined our Congregation in 1908. She pronounced her first vows on August 12, 1911, and made perpetual profession six years later.

Sister Gregory had completed fifty-eight years of teaching when she retired in 1968 at the age of 75. During her long career of service to youth, she taught in both grade and high schools in eleven different parishes: St. Joseph and St. Raymond, Joliet; St. Clement, St. Francis de Sales, and SS. Peter and Paul, Chicago; St. Mary, Des Plaines; St. Mary and St. Mary Magdalene, Columbus; St. Peter, Mansfield; St. Louis, Washburn; and Holy Family, Bayfield. The last thirteen years of her teaching ministry she spent at SS. Peter and Paul High School, Chicago. She enjoyed a climactic moment when the girls elected her "favorite teacher of 1966" two years before she retired from the classroom. The school newspaper quoted the tribute of one of her students, "Sister is my kind of teacher because she is understanding and has a great love for poetry and life." Indeed, those of us who had known Sister Gregory will attest to her success both in the classroom and in life.

Shortly after her Diamond Jubilee in 1971, a happy occasion which she had so eagerly longed to observe, she wrote: "My greatest consolation is being surrounded by persons who care and who love me. Celebrating sixty years in religious life surrounded by six priests who were formerly my students gladdens my heart."

The wake for Sister Gregory will be at Our Lady of Angels on Wednesday afternoon and evening, October 12, with a Scripture service at 4:30 p.m. The Mass of Resurrection will be celebrated at 7:30 that same evening. Rev. James Lennon, one of the former students who had rejoiced with her at her jubilee, will be the principal celebrant of the Liturgy. Burial will be on Thursday, October 13, at 10 a.m. at Resurrection Cemetery, Lockport.

To Sister Gregory's sister, Mrs. Joseph Lugar, of Lynwood, California, we extend our prayerful sympathy. May she find comfort in that the most recent apostolate of Sister Gregory, which she herself had characterized as "one of prayer, suffering, and diminishment," has led her into the joys of Eternal Life.

Devotedly in Christ,

THE GOVERNING BOARD

