

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

March 7, 1979

Dear Sisters,

Once again we are challenged by the mystery of death. Just twelve hours after the death of Sister Antonia, the Lord called to Himself our beloved Sister M. Rosaline Kodada. She died this morning at 1:45 in the infirmary of Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home. She was in the 85th year of her life and the 59th year of her religious life.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, of Jacob and Rosalia Nemeec Kodada, on May 4, 1894, she received the name Caroline at her Baptism in St. Procop Church, Cleveland. Her parents died in her childhood, and she was raised by her grandmother. She had been a very active sodalist in the Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality when, at the age of 25, she felt called to enter religious life as did her sister, Sister Victorine, before her. She became a postulant on December 5, 1919, and was received into the novitiate on the Feast of St. Clare, 1920. She made her First Profession on the same feast two years later and spoke her Final Vows in 1925. The year 1972 saw the celebration of her Golden Jubilee of Profession as a Franciscan Sister.

For 44 years Sister Rosaline served in the field of elementary education, especially enjoying the intermediate grades. Affectionate and warm in personality, she was especially loved by the children she taught. Her first mission was St. Stephen, Johnstown; and her last, Sacred Heart, Englewood. The years in between she taught at St. Joseph and St. Jude, Joliet; St. Cyril, St. Procopius, Assumption, and St. Judmilla, Chicago; and St. Procop and Holy Family, Cleveland. Half of her teaching career was divided between St. Procopius, Chicago, and St. Procop, Cleveland, at each of which schools she taught eleven years.

In 1968, Sister Rosaline retired to Our Lady of Angels. She was deeply devoted to her sister, Sister Victorine, who spent her last days there, preceding her in death in 1975. In recent years, Sister Rosaline's health declined, and she became mentally frail. "Unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest." These words of Jesus from the Gospel of St. John (12:24) speak of the complete surrender of oneself in preparation for resurrection. Sister Rosaline was asked by the Lord to surrender everything in life as well as in physical death.

We offer our sincere and prayerful sympathy to all the Sisters in the Congregation and to her surviving nephew and two nieces as well as to her friends, especially those whom she taught.

The wake for Sister Rosaline will be held from 2 to 7 p.m. on Friday, March 9, with a prayer service at 3:30 p.m. On Friday evening at seven o'clock, Reverend Norman Petz, pastor of St. John Vianney Church, Lockport, will celebrate the Mass of Resurrection. Burial will be at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 10, at Resurrection Cemetery, Lockport. May our Sister forever enjoy the reward of God's presence in Heaven!

Devotedly yours in Christ,
THE GOVERNING BOARD

