

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

June 21, 1988

Dear Sisters and Associates,

When our Sister Marietta Mehalic succumbed on Sunday to the effects of a rapidly spreading cancer, a wonderfully colorful and lively personality disappeared from the Joliet and Motherhouse scenes. It must have been a merciful release for this energetic Franciscan woman, who loved nothing better than to be out and about, taking advantage of every opportunity for more activity, more adventure, more friendships and more learning and experience.

These last months had been very trying for her as she gradually accepted the fact that her ebbing energy was probably not to return, and that her strength was quickly waning ... difficult, too, for those who surrounded her and did their best to support her in her day to day struggle to continue on. It was just a week before her death that she made the decision to move to Our Lady of Angels, aware that what she once considered minimal activity was now demanding energy she no longer had. It was a hard decision, but she was ready.

Sister Marietta devoted the greater part of her life as a Joliet Franciscan to the ministry of education, always with a special interest in and inclination toward the poor and marginated. She was attracted to work with the Hispanic community in Chicago and, after having studied Spanish for four summers, she taught for several years at St. Ludmilla's and at Our Lady of Guadalupe, as well as at the East Side Learning Center in Joliet. As part of her preparation for this work, she also completed an Institute of Religion and culture at the Mexican American Cultural Center in San Antonio. In addition, Sister's teaching career took her to other missions in Ohio, Michigan and Illinois with four decades of active service in over a dozen parishes in the three states. Her strength was her teaching ability in the primary and middle grades and she gave generously of herself, being well-respected both as teacher and disciplinarian. In 1982 Sister Marietta began her second career as driver and receptionist at Our Lady of Angels, a ministry in which she served until her most recent illness.

To all who grieve at this time of loss, we offer our sympathy and prayer, especially to Sister's five sisters Ann, Bernadine, Eleanor, Evelyn and Frances and her brothers, John, Bob and Ronald. We remember, too, her in-laws, nieces and nephews and the many who called her friend.

Sister Marietta "fought the good fight"...as she now celebrates the joy of Resurrection, we recall her presence among us with gratitude. We are appreciative of all she did for the Congregation, for the "spice" she added to our lives, and for the many lives she touched through the years. May the Lord of Life bless her with the joy and peace of His Presence forever.

Sincerely,  
 The Governing Board



## SISTER MARIETTA MEHALIC (Margaret)



Born: May 3, 1920  
 Parents: Joseph and Anna (Nemec) Mehalic  
 Postulancy: September 6, 1937  
 Novitiate: August 12, 1938  
 First Profession: August 12, 1940  
 Final Profession: August 12, 1943  
 Died: Sunday, June 19, 1988 at 7:30 a.m. at  
 Our Lady of Angels, Joliet

## Ministry:

1940 - 1945 Assumption, Chicago, IL, Grades 1,2,3. Preparatory Class  
 1945 - 1948 Immaculate Conception, Kankakee, IL, Grades 1, 2, 3 & 4  
 1948 - 1950 Assumption, Chicago, IL, Grades 2, 3, 4, 5, 6  
 1950 - 1951 St. Joseph Elgin, IL Grades 1 & 2  
 St. John, Joliet, IL, Grades 1 & 2  
 1951 - 1952 St. Mary, Columbus, OH, Grade 5  
 1952 - 1954 Guardian Angel Home, Joliet, IL, Junior Boys, Prefect  
 1954 - 1955 St. Boniface, Chicago, IL Grade 5  
 Sacred Heart, Chicago, IL, Grades 3 & 4  
 1955 - 1956 St. Mary, Mt. Vernon, IL, Grades 3 & 4  
 1956 - 1959 St. Michael, Brunswick, MI, Grades 1, 2, and 3  
 1959 - 1962 St. Stephen, Streator, IL, Grade 1  
 1962 - 1963 St. Procop, Cleveland, OH, Grade 1  
 1963 - 1967 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Chicago, IL Grades 5, 6 and 8  
 1967 - 1968 St. Joseph, Joliet, IL, Grade 7  
 1968 - 1969 St. John, Joliet, IL, Grades 7 & 8  
 1969 - 1970 St. Mary Carmelite, Joliet, IL, teaching  
 1970 - 1973 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL, East Side Learning Center  
 1973 - 1976 St. Ludmilla, Chicago, IL, Mathematics  
 1976 - 1977 St. Joseph, Joliet, IL, Math, Reading, Librarian  
 1977 - 1981 St. Raymond, Joliet, IL, Grade 2  
 1981 - 1982 Motherhouse, Joliet, IL, Recuperating and  
 Sacred Heart, Chicago, IL, teaching  
 1982 - 1987 Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL, Driver/Receptionist  
 1987 - 1988 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL, Convalescent

Wake: Tuesday, June 21, 1988 from 2 - 7 p.m. with  
 Prayer Service at 4:15 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial, Tuesday, June 21, 1988 at 7 p.m.

Burial: Wednesday, June 22, 1988 from OLA at 9 a.m. to  
 Resurrection Cemetery

Survived by brothers: John, Robert and Ronald  
 and sisters: Ann Centko, Eleanor Chsmarik, Frances Ramza, Bernadine  
 Mehalic and Evelyne Mehalic