

5267

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

July 1, 1978

Dear Sisters,

Although rheumatoid arthritis forced Sister Trinette Schmitz to retire to Our Lady of Angels in 1963 at the age of 56, her death last evening came unexpectedly to those who lived with her. After but a brief final illness, Sister died at 7:15 p.m. on Friday, June 30, a few weeks before her 71st birthday. She was in the 54th year of religious life.

Born in Chicago on July 24, 1907, she was christened Dorothy Marie at her Baptism in St. Alphon-sus Church. Her parents were Adolph and Catherine Linden Schmitz. Taught by our Sisters at St. Clement's, Chicago, she was attracted to the Franciscan way of life. She became a postulant on September 8, 1923, and entered the novitiate on August 12, 1924. She pronounced her First Vows on August 13, 1926, and her Final Vows three years later in 1929.

Sister Trinette taught music and elementary education in ten different places. She spent all of her 37 years as organist and teacher in Illinois, except for one year at St. Louis School in Custar, Ohio, and one at St. Dionysius, Benton, Missouri. Her ministry to children in Illinois included those at St. Raymond (Joliet), St. Francis Xavier (Chicago), Annunciation (Aurora), St. Mary (Rock Island), St. Joseph (Pesotum), Immaculate Conception (Kankakee), Sacred Heart (Lillyville), and St. Mary Help of Christians (Green Creek).

Before her Golden Jubilee in 1976, she offered in an interview this comment about herself: "Arthritis has me completely crippled up, but I am mentally perky. I enjoy reading and stimulating conversation along with my apostolate of prayer and pain." She especially enjoyed her conversations with some of her classmates who faithfully visited her. Two of them said of Sister Trinette after she died, "She was one of the most affable persons, who constantly had a serene and even temperament. She never showed that she had 'good days and bad days' but was always the same. With her sunny disposition and quiet but keen sense of humor, she did more for her visitors than they could ever do for her. She was heroic in her afflictions--always most charitable, always a joy to visit."

We extend our sympathy to her sister, Lucille Huck, of Phoenix, Arizona, to her nieces, nephews, and cousins, as well as to all the Sisters of the Congregation. All are invited to the wake at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home on Sunday, July 2, 1978, from 2 to 9 p.m. A special Scripture service will be conducted at 3:30 p.m. Mass of Resurrection will be celebrated in the chapel of Our Lady of Angels on Monday, July 3, at 9:30 a.m. Burial services and interment will follow at Resurrection Cemetery, Lockport.

May the Lord welcome our beloved Sister Trinette into her eternal home!

Devotedly yours in Christ,

THE GOVERNING BOARD

