

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

December 4, 1986

Dear Sisters and Associates,

Just a few days before commemorating the first anniversary of her sister's death, Sister Vera Sebastian joined her twin, Sister Arcadia, to celebrate Christmas '86 with extraordinary joy and jubilation among the heavenly choirs.

The daughter of Mary and John Sebastian was christened Anna Charity at Saint Michael's Church in Chicago in 1901. Though born triplets, only she and Sister Arcadia (Louise Hope) survived; their sister, Marie Faith, dying at the age of two. In 1917, the two sisters entered the Joliet Franciscans and remained close through the years.

Sister Vera's lengthy career in education included missions in Illinois and Ohio with five decades of active service in over a dozen parishes in the two states. Sister's strength was her teaching ability in the middle and upper grades. She gave generously of herself and was well respected both within and outside the classroom. In a report from one of her last teaching assignments, her principal notes, "Sister prepares very well and works hard with her students. Her concern for the students and for the school program is great. She has fine rapport in all areas."

It is difficult to remember Sister Vera without closely linking the name and the person of Sister Arcadia, her sister and confidante. Many recall the care and concern with which they looked out for one another till the very end.

Although the debilitation that came after her stroke in 1982 was a cross to her, Sister Vera now knows that peace of which this evening's reading from Isaiah speaks:

They will come to Zion shouting with gladness,
everlasting joy on their faces;
Joy and gladness will go with them
and sorrow and lament be ended.

We offer our sympathy to her nieces, nephews and other family members. We are grateful for Sister Vera's long life and dedication. May eternal life and peace be hers.

Sincerely,

The Governing Board



SISTER M. VERA SEBASTIAN (ANNA)

Born: October 20, 1901
 Parents: John A. and Maria (Sedlmayer) Sebastian
 Postulancy: November 1, 1917
 Novitiate: August 12, 1918
 1st Profession: August 12, 1920
 Final Profession: August 12, 1923
 Died: Wednesday, December 3, 1986 at 12:37 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home



Ministry:

1920 - 1922 Sacred Heart, Englewood, IL, Grade 1
 1922 - 1924 St. Peter, Mansfield, OH, Grades 2 & 3
 1924 - 1926 St. Mary, Columbus, OH, Grade 4
 1926 - 1927 St. Joseph, Elgin, IL, Grades 5 & 6
 1927 - 1928 Sacred Heart, Englewood, IL, Grades 3 & 5
 1928 - 1930 St. Boniface, Chicago, IL, Grade 6
 1930 - 1931 St. Francis Xavier, Chicago, IL, Grade 6
 1931 - 1941 St. Clement, Chicago, IL, Grades 6 & 7
 1941 - 1943 St. Raymond, Joliet, IL, Grade 7
 1943 - 1950 St. Joseph, Freeport, IL, Grades 5, 6 & 7
 1950 - 1951 Sacred Heart, Englewood, IL, Grade 7
 1951 - 1952 St. Bernard, Joliet, IL, Grade 7
 1952 - 1957 St. Clement, Chicago, IL, Grades 6 & 7
 1957 - 1958 St. Francis Xavier, Chicago, IL, Grade 8
 1958 - 1959 St. Paul the Apostle, Joliet, IL, Grade 7
 1959 - 1960 St. Boniface, Chicago, IL, Grade 7
 1960 - 1961 St. Mary, Mount Vernon, IL, Grades 5 & 6
 1961 - 1962 St. Joseph, Elgin, IL, Grade 7
 1962 - 1964 St. Mary, Plainfield, IL, Grades 6 & 7
 1964 - 1966 St. Matthew, Champaign, IL, Grade 6
 1966 - 1972 St. Pius X, Lombard, IL, Grade 6
 1972 - 1982 St. Mary, Des Plaines, IL, Sacristan
 1982 - 1986 Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL, Retired

Wake: Thursday, December 4, 1986 from 2 - 7 p.m. with a Prayer Service at 3:15 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial: Thursday, December 4, 1986 at 7 p.m.

Burial: Friday, December 5, 1986 at 9 a.m. with interment at Resurrection Cemetery

Survived by nieces and nephews.