

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

August 9, 1976

Dear Sisters,

At 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, August 8, 1976, Sister M. Leo Zieverink died in St. Joseph Hospital. All of us who had visited the infirmary of Our Lady of Angels during the past several years know of the intense suffering of our sister. Hers was a call to physical martyrdom, which she endured valiantly. Her faith and the faith of those who cared for her, especially her own sister, Sister Charles, supported her.

Sister Leo was born in Chicago, Illinois, on October 15, 1895. She was the daughter of Bernard and Rosa Zieverink. Her Christian life began at her Baptism in St. Francis of Assisi Church, Chicago, where she was christened Rose. On July 16, 1912, she entered the postulancy of our Congregation. She became a novice on March 6, 1913, and made her first profession on March 6, 1915. She pronounced perpetual vows on August 12, 1919. Her diamond jubilee was celebrated on June 21, 1975.

Just five years ago, in 1971, the mayor of Joliet with the City Council and the Community Relations Commission presented Sister Leo with an award for having "rendered invaluable and outstanding service to the cause of better human relations in the field of education." She received this honor for her ministry at the Peter Claver Adult Education Center, but it served also as a fitting climax to a life devoted to the teaching ministry until illness forced Sister to retire to Our Lady of Angels in 1972. She taught in many elementary schools during her 57 active years -- in Illinois (Joliet, Chicago, Aurora, Pesotum, Manhattan, Des Plaines, and Mt. Vernon); in Ohio (Mansfield and Columbus); and in Michigan (Brunswick).

Besides her one sister, Sister Charles, she is survived by nieces and nephews. We extend to all of them our deep sympathy, and we promise our prayer.

Sister Leo's cousin, Rev. Don Hayes, S.J., of Chicago, who celebrated Mass on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee, will be celebrant of the Mass of Christian Burial on Tuesday evening, August 10, 1976, at 7:00 p.m., at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home. Burial will be in Resurrection Cemetery, Lockport, on Wednesday morning, August 11.

The Gospel of the Mass celebrated on the day of Sister Leo's death bears a Eucharistic theme. Jesus, the Living Bread, has indeed invited Sister Leo to partake in the Eternal Banquet even as He had promised. Like St. Lawrence, she "merited to suffer martyrdom and to ascend in joy to Christ the Lord." We who have shared her life have been blessed.

Devotedly yours,

THE GOVERNING BOARD

