

January 13, 1999

“My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour!”

Dear Sisters,

These words of Mary’s Magnificat became a reality for our dear Sister Anne last evening. Surrounded by the loving prayer of her sisters, Sister Anne was called to join in the eternal praise of the angels and saints.



Sister M. Anne - Mary Lipovsky  
Born: November 19, 1917 in Lansford, PA  
Professed: February 2, 1938  
Died: January 12, 1999 in Reading, PA

Sister Anne was educated by our sisters in Lansford and entered the aspirancy in 1931. From 1939 until 1960, Sister was a dedicated and expert teacher of the primary grades in Bethlehem, Allentown, Athens, and Palmerton.

While teaching in Palmerton, Sister first noticed the symptoms of multiple sclerosis. During the early years of this devastating disease, Sister Anne continued teaching. She also inspired many young sister educators through instructions in the methods of teaching the primary grades.

For ten years, Sister lived in the community of St. Joseph’s Health Resort in Wedron. There, she taught religious education to the local children, typed the menus for the dining room, and visited patients in her motorized wheelchair. During this period, despite her deteriorating health, Sister Anne remained a generous and loving community member.

These characteristics grew stronger as she grew weaker. Sister Anne came to Holy Family Center in 1973. After some time, she was no longer able to navigate the corridors in her wheelchair. For years she struggled each night to type the newsworthy events concerning

happenings at St. Michael's. Her monthly newsletter was circulated throughout the Province. This act of love for her sisters was the fruit of her personal philosophy of trying to forget self.

In a letter written in 1950, Sister Anne advised another victim of M.S. "*...to keep busy, try to forget self, think of others, make them happy. It is more fun.*" These past years when Sister was completely dependent and could not even move a finger, she never gave up this attitude. Her mind remained alert and always interested in the world and the lives of her MSC sisters and family members.

Even though Sister Anne had to struggle to speak, she never tired of saying "*thank you*" for every service and always welcomed visitors and nurses with a loving smile.

Last spring Sister was diagnosed with cancer. She bravely underwent the surgery which the doctor recommended. It seemed to her to be one more "*fiat*" which God was asking of her.

Sister Anne's extraordinary life of suffering and joy, deep prayer and grateful smiles, has deeply touched our lives. We thank Sister for the exceptional example of love with which she has enriched us.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for our dear departed Sister Anne on Saturday, January 16, 1999 at 10:30 a.m. She will then be laid to rest in our convent cemetery.

Yours in Jesus' love,

*Sister Marie Clark, n.s.c.*