

March 31, 1997

"Bring us the glory of
the resurrection promised by this Easter sacrament."
(Prayer after Communion for Easter Sunday)

Dear Sisters,

On the great feast of Easter, our dear Sister Agnesia was called to celebrate the joy of the Resurrection with the Risen Lord in heaven.



Sister M. Agnesia - Maria Rehme
Born: December 15, 1900 in Osnabruck, Germany
First Profession: December 1, 1923
Died: March 30, 1997 in Reading, PA

Sister Agnesia first came to the congregation in 1919 but had to leave due to poor health. She returned three years later and came to the United States as a postulant in 1922. After her first profession, she went to Ohio where she served in the domestic departments at the seminary in Columbus and at the university in Dayton. On returning to Pennsylvania, Sister served as homemaker in the convents of SS. Cyril & Methodius, Reading, and St. Michael, Lansford.

In 1930, Sister Agnesia was assigned to St. Michael's Convent, Reading where she faithfully served in the sewing room for the next 58 years. During these years of hidden service, Sister touched many of our lives by her kind, gentle, and unassuming manner. As the many novices who learned the rudiments of sewing from her can attest, she was a very prayerful person who took seriously the admonition of St. Paul to "*pray always.*"

Sister had a great devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. In years past, she accompanied the priest as he distributed Holy Communion to the bedridden sisters. She always regarded this ministry of accompaniment as a graced privilege.

For many years, Sister lived with much physical pain and was burdened with wearing a leg brace. However, throughout all her suffering, she never complained. In 1988, Sister Agnesia retired

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to Holy Family Center, our health care unit. During the last few weeks, her health declined steadily. On Easter morning, she was anointed after Mass and the sisters began to take turns staying with her, just as she had done for so many others in their last hours. In the early afternoon, she died peacefully and quietly in the Lord, just as she had lived.

We will celebrate the Mass of the Resurrection for Sister Agnesia on Thursday, April 3, 1997 at 3:30 p.m., and then bring her to rest in our convent cemetery.

Yours in the Heart of Jesus,

Sister Barbara Daniels, MSC