

September 13, 1997

“He has called you out of darkness into His own
wonderful light”. (Evening Prayer)

Dear Sisters,

Last evening, very unexpectedly, our Lord called our dear Sister Brenda out of the darkness of pain and suffering into His own wonderful light.



Sister M. Brenda - Agnes Serina
Born: July 18, 1913 in Seek, PA
First Profession: August 26, 1933
Died: September 12, 1997 in Reading, PA

Sister Brenda came to St. Michael's as an aspirant in 1927. After her novitiate, she began a ministry as a primary grade teacher which lasted 24 years. Sister was well liked as a teacher, always kind and generous, ready to serve the needs of students and other faculty.

Sister Brenda was a very gifted person. In 1958 her ministry was changed from education to business. She served for 37 years in the business office of Sacred Heart Hospital, Allentown and also St. Mary's Hospital, Athens, Georgia. Her quiet, unassuming way and her gift of compassionate listening brought many friends from among her co-workers.

A few years ago Sister had back surgery. After this she was never without pain, yet she continued to work as many hours as she could, and without a complaint. Finally, in 1995 she came to St. Michael's and joined the Sisters in Holy Family Health Unit.

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Sister Brenda was a prayerful person with a very special love for Our Lady. She spent much time in chapel, and often prayed through the night when pain prevented sleep. While in Athens she participated in a prayer group that met faithfully to pray the Rosary. Mary was truly her mother and her friend.

Yesterday, Sister was present with the others for Holy Mass and Rosary. She prayed before the Blessed Sacrament until about 3 p.m. At suppertime she said she was not hungry and decided to stay in her room, but asked to have toast and tea brought to her. She ate little and told one of the nurses she was having some difficulty breathing. Sr. Elise came immediately with oxygen, but she was already breathing her last. Sister died as quietly and peacefully as she lived.

We will celebrate the Mass of Resurrection for our Sister Brenda on Tuesday, September 16, 1997 at 3:30 p.m. and then bring her to rest in our convent cemetery.

United in the love of Our Lord,

Sister Theresa Lepera, M.B.C.