

August 5, 2002

“You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence.”
(Ps.16, v.11- Evening prayer Saturday of Week Two)

Dear Sisters,

At 9:00 p.m. on the first Saturday of the month, Mary our Mother, whom Sister Christine loved and honored in a special way, came to lead her to the fullness of joy in God’s eternal presence.



Sister M. Christine - Gloria Yvonne Racette
Born: May 30, 1928 in Gardner, MA
Professed: August 19, 1948
Died: August 3, 2002 in Reading, PA

Sister Christine began her life’s journey with our congregation in 1945 when she joined our aspirancy and completed her high school education. Immediately after profession, Sister stayed at St. Michael’s and worked in the kitchen. Later she was sent to our hospitals in Pottsville and Allentown.

From 1956 to 1968, Sister Christine taught the primary grades and at the same time took courses for her teaching degree. Sister was missioned to parish schools in Reading, Coplay, Nazareth, and Limeport, PA as well as in Athens, Georgia.

As soon as Sister completed her studies, she was allowed to follow her heart’s desire and was transferred to Papua New Guinea. There she served as a teacher for the next seven years. After independence, Sister Christine returned to the United States and continued her educational ministry until a severe hearing deficiency forced her to leave the classroom.

Sister Christine loved her students and was known as a kind, energetic, and dedicated teacher. She transferred these same skills to congregational service and served as a homemaker in various local convents. From 1982 until poor health forced her to retire in 1999,

Sister cared for the dietary needs of the sisters in Haycock, Lansford, Nazareth, Northampton, and Allentown.

Throughout her life, Sister Christine was a very generous person and a hard worker. In later years she willingly worked alongside the various women's organizations to support parish events. In her free time, Sister Christine carried on an extensive apostolate of letter writing. It was her way of keeping in contact with others in spite of her severe hearing loss. Christine wrote to many MSC throughout the world and had a wonderful gift of entertaining the fortunate recipients of her regular correspondence.

In recent years, Sister Christine suffered greatly from the effects of severe diabetes. She was, however, able to share in the life of the community and was greatly supported by her sister, Sister Jeannine, who is a member of St. Michael's community. Sister Christine's sense of sense of humor added much joy to our lives.

After a fall, Sister was admitted to St. Joseph Hospital. Although her death was a surprise to us, we all knew that Christine had been failing rapidly. Sister died peacefully with her sister, Sister Jeannine, at her side.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for Sister Christine on Wednesday, August 7, 2002, at 11:00 a.m. She will then be laid to rest in our convent cemetery.

United in Jesus' love,

Sister Marie Clark, K.S.C.