

July 8, 2004

"In God alone is my soul at rest; my help comes from Him."
(Psalm 62 - Evening Prayers)

Dear Sisters,

After three years of patient suffering, our dear Sister Loretta is now at rest.



Sister M. Loretta - Margaret Yevchak (Jevcak)

Born: August 5, 1916 in Lansford, PA

Professed: August 26, 1936

Died: July 7, 2004 in Reading, PA

Sister Loretta's parents emigrated to the United States from Czechoslovakia and settled in Lansford where Sister was born, and where she came to know our sisters.

When she was 14, she entered the aspirancy. She was received as a candidate in 1935 and was professed in 1936.

Sister Loretta's first assignment was to Sacred Heart School, Palmerton where she served for seven years and taught grades one through four. She then went to Coopersburg to teach for one year.

The next 47 years Sister Loretta spent at Little Flower High School in Philadelphia, teaching business courses and serving as coordinator of the audio-visual department. During this time, she lived in St. Henry's parish and was in charge of caring for the little chapel there. This was the love of her life, and being something of a perfectionist, she saw to it that the chapel was always clean, shiny, and beautifully decorated. The sisters always said you could see your reflection in the chapel floor.

When Sister Loretta came to St. Michael's in 1992, she continued the work she so loved to do in the little chapel in Holy Family Center.

About three years ago, Sister fell and fractured her vertebrae. From that time, she suffered severe and constant pain. In spite of the pain, she continued to take care of the small chapel until recently when she developed other health problems.

Last Wednesday, Sister was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital suffering from abdominal pain. She was there for about a week undergoing tests. Yesterday, at 3:30 p.m., she very quietly and unexpectedly went to rest in the Lord.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for Sister Loretta on Monday, July 12, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. She will then be laid to rest in our convent cemetery.

United in the love of Jesus,

Sr. Therese Ligera