

April 3, 2001

“No follower of mine shall ever walk in darkness;
no, he/she shall possess the light of life.”

(Gospel of Monday, Fifth Week of Lent)

Dear Sisters,

Yesterday, shortly after midnight, our dear Sister M. Richard was called by God to the fullness of eternal light. In the days previous to her death, our sisters kept constant vigil at her bedside.



Sister M. Richard - Anna Wolshitch
Born: August 21, 1904 in Ormrod, PA
Professed: February 3, 1927
Died: April 2, 2001 in Reading, PA

Sister Richard was received into the postulancy on March 25, 1925. On that same date seventy-six years later, she joined the community in our chapel for a festive liturgy which officially marked the end of our centennial year and the beginning of the next historical phase of our congregation. In the days that followed, Sister became ever more weak.

Sister Richard's life was marked by simplicity, fidelity, and love. After profession, Sister was sent to Columbus, Ohio where she assisted in the support of seminarians. From 1950 until 1953, Sister did the same work for our MSC priests and brothers in Geneva, Illinois.

However, her main mission was that of domestic worker at the home of the Knights of St. George in Wellsburg, Virginia. She willingly and generously fulfilled these tasks in various departments for fifty-six years. In the course of those many years, Sister worked in the laundry, chapel, sacristy, the guest and chaplain quarters. She was considered the heart and soul of the home. Despite her many and varied tasks, Sister was never known to complain.

A special highlight in Sister's life was a celebration in October of 1982 when the Knights of St. George honored her for 50 years of service in their Wellsburg home.

Sister Richard left Wellsburg in January of 1988 and the remaining three sisters were withdrawn some months later. Sister Richard then retired to Holy Family Center. The last years of her life were spent in quiet prayer.

We are grateful to Sister Richard for her long years of service and her example of unselfish fidelity to our congregation. The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for Sister on Wednesday, April 4, 2001, at 3:30 p.m. She will then be laid to rest in our convent cemetery.

United in Jesus' love,

Sister Marie Clark, n.s.c