

August 7, 2000

This is my beloved daughter in whom I am well pleased.

Dear Sisters,

In early July, Sister Marian was diagnosed with terminal cancer of the liver. In the weeks preceding her death, Sister prepared with customary diligence for this great moment of transformation. When Jesus, her loving bridegroom, came to invite her into the eternal mystery of Transfiguration, our dear Sister Marian was ready and eager to welcome Him.



Sister Marian - Anna C. Pavlik
Born: January 9, 1918 in Lansford, PA
Professed: August 26, 1937
Died: August 5, 2000 in Reading, PA

Sister Marian entered our aspirancy in 1931. She was familiar with our MSC Sisters from her parish school of St. Michael's in Lansford. As was the custom, Sister received some college courses during postulancy and second year novitiate. She began her ministry of teaching in 1938. Her first assignments were to elementary schools in Bethlehem, Coplay, and Lebanon, Illinois.

From 1955 to 1968 Sister taught mathematics at Central Catholic and Nativity High Schools. She prepared for this by furthering her education during the summer months when school was not in session. From September of 1968 until June of 1976, Sister Marian served as principal and local superior in our parish schools of Lansford, Hilltown, and Philadelphia.

The last 24 years of her life were spent as a member of St. Michael's community in Reading. In the early years Sister co-ordinated the housekeeping department. Later she assumed responsibility for various clerical tasks. During this period Marian endeared herself to every sister serving overseas as she wrapped and packed with great love and care many personal gift packages for the sisters.

Sister Marian was a woman of great organizational skills. When asked to perform a service, it was always completed immediately and with utmost precision. Combined with these gifts, Sister was an accomplished organist. Until her admission to the Health Care Unit a few weeks ago, Sister was the main organist for St. Michael's. In earlier years she combined organ playing in the church with her teaching duties.

About 25 years ago, Sister was diagnosed with uterine cancer which had spread to her appendices. At the time of surgery, doctors removed only the appendices and treated her with chemo and

radiation therapies. At that time she faced death bravely as she was told she had six months to live. Sister Marian did everything possible to keep her spirits uplifted. She was an avid believer in the power of prayer and positive thinking.

When the cancer was diagnosed in early July, her doctor, having studied all her old records, looked at her in awe and said, "Sister, you are a miracle."

Sister Marian loved life and valued every moment. She filled them with prayer, music, and a variety of services performed in a quiet, unassuming, and most efficient manner. Each morning Sister could share the latest world news and also saw to it that these intentions were included in the prayers of the faithful during morning Liturgy.

We are most grateful to Sister for her many acts of service and kindness. Life at St. Michael's will not be the same without her. Sister died during our Province Days and on the eve of the feast of the Transfiguration. Her name was added to the scroll of our deceased sisters which was incensed during our solemn and festive centennial celebration the day after her death.

Sister Marian's life has risen like incense to the throne of God. We will celebrate her resurrection with the Mass of Christian Burial on Tuesday, August 8, 2000, at 11:00 a.m. She will then be laid to rest in our convent cemetery.

United in prayer,

Sister Marie Clark, MSC