

## *Saint Michael Convent*

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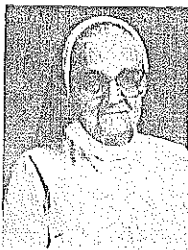
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September 8, 1999

“Come , let us celebrate the birth of the Virgin Mary”  
(Invitatory psalm for morning prayer)

Dear Sisters,

Sister Mary Celine had spent several weeks in the hospital, seriously ill, until the decision was made to bring her home to our Health Care Unit where she was lovingly cared for until her very quiet, peaceful death last evening.



Sister Mary Celine - Anna Suchmann  
Born: July 16, 1911 in Dorsten, Germany  
Professed: August 16, 1933  
Died: September 7, 1999 in Reading, PA

Sister entered the congregation as an aspirant in 1926. A few months after her first profession, she was missioned to the U.S.A. Her first assignment was that of student. Sister immediately took up the challenge of building on the preparation of teacher training which had begun in Germany. Within ten months of her arrival in the country, Sister Mary Celine began a long and successful career as an elementary and high school teacher.

Sister Mary Celine is remembered by many in the parish schools where her energy and love were spent not only imparting knowledge, especially of mathematics, but also instilling the richness of our Catholic faith and Christian values. Sister taught math at Central Catholic in Allentown, PA and various elementary grades in parish schools in Coaldale, Lansford, Philadelphia, Northampton, Lebanon, Illinois, and finally at Holy Guardian Angels in Reading.

In 1983 Sister Mary Celine retired from school and for the next thirteen years spent part of each day at the service of her sisters in the sewing room at St. Michael's. Three years ago, Sister joined the community of Holy Family Center. She was very independent and occupied herself with knitting, crocheting, and other arts and crafts. Over the years, our friends and benefactors have been the recipients of many of her beautiful afghans.

Sister was grateful for the quiet days of retirement which provided the opportunity to spend time in prayer. She loved the rosary and was most devoted to Mary. How appropriate that she was called on the eve of the celebration of Our Lady's birth.

We are grateful to Sister for the example of her life spent in service to others. She has been an inspiration to many.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated for Sister Mary Celine on Friday, September 10, 1999, at 3:30 p.m. She will then be laid to rest in our convent cemetery.

In the love of Jesus and Mary,

*Sr. Theresa Lepera, M.B.C.*