

A.U.T.C.J.S.

St. Michael's Convent
Hyde Park
Reading, Pa. 19605

March 28, 1969

"The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won".

Dear Sisters,

These words were verified today in our dear Sister M. Baptista. Early this morning at 4:00 A.M. she finished her earthly course and may now, so we confidently hope, partake of the bliss of the glorified Lord.

Sister M. Baptista - Josepha Hoppe
Born March 29, 1888 at Lathen, Germany
Entered our Congregation June 2, 1910
First Profession December 8, 1911
Arrived in the U.S.A. May 5, 1913
Died in Reading, Pa. March 28, 1969

Sister M. Baptista's family was blessed with four religious vocations. One died as a Sister of Notre Dame; a second became an Ursuline nun; the youngest, Sister M. Leodegard entered our Congregation and is now stationed in Paffrath, Germany.

Sister M. Baptista came to the United States shortly after her First Profession. Because Sister was trained in the household arts, especially as dietitian, she served in various capacities in several of our institutions. One chore she especially loved and performed with great zeal was the care of the chapel. This gave her genuine joy. Since 1957 Sister has been in the Motherhouse in Reading. In 1967 she became confined to her bed in the Infirmary. Now she could do almost nothing but pray. She appreciated what was done for her in her helpless condition, as she expressed and indicated in her last illness.

Sister became critically ill about two weeks ago, so that we had her receive the Sacrament of the Last Anointing. Her strength kept steadily failing. Sister struggled with death for quite a while. During this time she was assisted by the continuous prayers of her Sisters, who did not leave her until finally she gave back her soul to its Creator. We believe and hope that our departed Sister is now hidden and secure in the Heart of God. In prayer we remain united with her.

The Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Monday, March 31 at 9:00 A.M. in the Motherhouse Chapel and immediately after we will accompany our departed Sister to her last resting place in our convent cemetery.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Mother M. Bridget, M.S.C.