

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

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

March 24, 1969

"Your light and your fidelity shall lead me on and bring me to  
your holy mountain, to your dwelling place". (Ps. 42-3)

Dear Sisters,

Early Sunday morning, March 23rd at 2:00 A.M. Our Lord came to lead our dear Sister M. Cordula up to the holy mountain, to the eternal dwelling place of Heaven.

Sister M. Cordula - Bertha Isenberg  
Born April 23, 1880 at Merklinde, Germany  
Entered our Congregation September 6, 1905  
First Profession May 3, 1907  
Came to the U.S.A. June 20, 1909  
Died in Reading March 23, 1969

Sister M. Cordula was a genuinely pious and deeply spiritual soul, who had followed the Light, Christ, her Divine Spouse, during her long religious life. Ready, and with a heart full of joy, Sister responded when in 1909 obedience called her to the United States, to the little mining town of Lansford, Pa. which at that time was our temporary Motherhouse.

Being one of the pioneers, Sister was instrumental in the opening of several of our first missions in the U.S.A. Thus she labored in Lansford, Slatington, St. Michael's Hyde Park, Sacred Heart Hospital, Allentown, Dayton, Ohio, and from 1927 to 1935 in St. Joseph's Health Resort in Wedron, Illinois.

In 1936 Sacred Heart Hospital in Norristown began, and Sister M. Cordula, because of her practical mind, her keen perception, her sense of value and sound judgment, was called upon again to help prepare for the opening of the hospital. After spending three years in the Motherhouse, Sister was in 1940 for the second time transferred to Wedron, the mission she loved and where she spent the rest of her religious life, until ill health confined her to a wheelchair. In 1968 she came to our Infirmary to St. Michael's.

In her work, which was manifold and of a diverse nature, Sister was exact, conscientious, standing always fully in reality. Cheerful and obliging as she was, keenly interested in people and in the daily events of life, possessed of a unique sense of humor, our dear Sister was loved by those with whom and for whom she worked. Sister loved Community life and tried to participate in most of our little community celebrations, in spite of being confined to a wheel chair.

Death came rather quickly. We still remember her being with us at breakfast the previous Sunday. Pneumonia set in and weakened her so much that she was anointed on Wednesday, March 19. Without struggle she peacefully fell asleep in the Lord whom she had loved and served zealously and untiringly and who will now be her great reward. Among the souls awaiting her in Heaven was her sister, Sister M. Hubertine, who had been a missionary in the Marshall Islands and Sister M. Ludgardis, a younger Sister, who followed Sister M. Cordula in the religious life.

The Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, March 26 at 9:00 A.M. Then our dear Sister will be laid to rest in our Convent cemetery.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Mother M. Bridget, M.S.C.