

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

St. Michael Convent
Reading, Pennsylvania
January 24, 1965

Dear Sisters,

Today God called our dear Sister M. Godeleva to Himself to give her the reward of a long and faithful religious life.

Sister M. Godeleva, nee Anna Kortuem
Born on July 2, 1884 at Darfeld, Westphalia, Germany
Entered our Congregation: October 17, 1911
First Vows: May 15, 1913
Final Vows: May 15, 1918
Died: January 24, 1965 at Reading, Pa.

Sister came to this country in 1916 and worked with zeal and dedication almost fifty years in several houses of the Congregation. In 1963 in Villa St. Elizabeth, the last place of her activity, she suffered a heart infarct and after a short stay in Sacred Heart Hospital, Allentown, she came to our infirmary. God gave her almost two more years of preparation for her holy death today. She was up and around, could attend services in chapel, was for the meals in the dining room, but her weak heart, her extremely poor eyesight and very poor hearing necessarily limited her activity. And yet, her mind was clear and alert and this fact made her suffer more acutely under her physical handicaps. But she prayed much for souls and for the Congregation. She was with us last Sunday, a week ago, for supper and during a little farewell celebration for Sister M. Regine. During the night from Monday to Tuesday she became ill with a fever and was somewhat delirious. On Thursday night Father anointed her. For this she was conscious and she made a real effort to pray along. When, in preparation for the Anointing of the Sick, I prayed with her the acts of faith, hope, love, and contrition, she prayed along and energetically added, "And now everything of the whole life is included."

During the past two days Sister was almost constantly in a coma but being such an energetic person, she seemed to relive in her fever phantasies her past, her interest for the sick and the old of whom she had taken care, and her concern for souls.

Immediately after Holy Mass today, which was for Sister, Father came up to say again with us the prayers at the moment of death and ended with the words, "Come, Lord Jesus" followed by a last, "I absolve you..." It seemed that Sister had waited for this; five minutes later she peacefully breathed her last.

We recommend her soul to your prayers.

The funeral will be on Wednesday, January 27, at 9:00 A. M.

Sincerely yours in Corde Jesu,

Mother M. Elizabeth, M. S. C.