

ST. MICHAEL CONVENT
HYDE PARK
READING, PA., 19605

September 19, 1977

"Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, so that they may always see the glory you have given me". (John 17: 24)

Dear Sisters,

This morning Our Lord selected our dear Sister M. Afra to be with Him so that she might forever see His glory.

Sister M. Afra - Maria Lakebrink
Born: February 3, 1888 in Muenster, Germany
First Profession: December 8, 1912
Died: September 19, 1977

Sister M. Afra came to the U.S.A. the year after her first profession. Most of her apostolic life and work was spent with children, especially in St. Paul's Orphanage, Reading, and in Sacred Heart Home, Coopersburg. The children loved Sister Afra and during her last years in Coopersburg the little boys would often connive to get out of other assigned work just to be with her. Just last week, a gentleman from Reading who had been a resident of St. Paul's Orphanage many years ago, came to visit her and Sister M. Damiana.

In community, Sister Afra was a faithful, pleasant, loving Sister. Her great desire was to do the will of the Father in all things. She was always ready and willing to do a favor or to help where needed.

A few months ago, Sister was hospitalized for a blood-clot in one of the vessels of her leg. When she recovered from this, she insisted on continuing, in a very limited way, her work among the flowers on the Motherhouse grounds. Then, on Friday, September 16th, while sitting at the noon meal, she had a stroke. Sister was anointed and taken immediately to St. Joseph's Hospital in Reading, where she died this morning without ever having regained her consciousness.

Let us remain united with our dear Sister M. Afra in prayer and remember her especially at the Liturgy.

The funeral Mass will be offered on Wednesday evening at 6:30 P.M. in the Motherhouse Chapel. The burial will be on Thursday morning at 8:00 A.M.

In the Sacred Heart of Christ,
Sister M. Thomasita, M.S.C.