

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

April 26, 1976

"I am the handmaid of the Lord, let what you have said be done to me."

(Lk. 1:38)

Dear Sisters,

Today, on the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel, a beautiful life has ended with a beautiful death. The Lord over life and death has taken our dear Sister M. Batildis Home to Himself after several months of suffering. She quietly fell asleep in the Lord on April 26, 1976, at about 4:45 p.m.

Sister M. Batildis, M.S.C. - Maria Morkötter  
Born October 18, 1897 at Wellingholzhausen  
First Profession August 16, 1922  
Died April 26, 1976 at St. Michael's Reading, Pa.

Most of Sister M. Batildis' religious life has been spent in the teaching apostolate in many of our schools. Sister was a fine teacher, imparting not only secular knowledge to her pupils, but especially the knowledge and love of God. Through word and example she prepared them for their Christian life as well as their duties as this country's citizens.

As the years went on, Sister's health began to fail and in 1971 she had to stop teaching. However, her apostolic zeal continued and the last years she served God and His people, most particularly our Sisters at Mt. Trexler in Limeport. She was a quiet, unassuming person, who saw the needs of others and tried to meet them before being asked. Always pleasant and smiling, she was kind and helpful wherever she could be of service, even though she had not been feeling well for several years. She was close to God through her intimate union with Him in prayer and activity, and especially during these last months in her painful illness.

She was admitted to Sacred Heart Hospital, Allentown on January 31, 1976, where the diagnosis of generalized abdominal cancer was made. Her condition was inoperable. On February 26, 1976, she came to our Motherhouse infirmary, where she was a model of patient suffering, greeting everyone who came in with her smile, and to questions how she feels, she always replied, "I want whatever God wills". She told me, "I am not afraid to die; I am ready". Her frequent prayer during this time was, "Jesus, Mary, Joseph, I love you so much. I wish I could love you more."

The Lord relieved her suffering. As she lived, so she died, simple, quiet, peaceful, loving, greeting her Bridegroom with the most beautiful smile on her face. She promised to remember all of us when she gets to Heaven.

The funeral will be on Wednesday, April 28, 1976 at 4:00 p.m. in our Convent Chapel. After that she will be put to rest in our cemetery. Let us continue to keep our dear Sister M. Batildis in our prayers, especially at Holy Mass.

In His Heart,

Sister Mary Dacia, M.S.C.