

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

ST. MICHAEL CONVENT
HYDE PARK
READING, PA. 19605
NOVEMBER 27, 1970

Dear Sisters,

Our Divine Lord listened to the oft repeated prayer of our dear Sister M. Crescentiana and came to take her home into His Kingdom on Friday, November 27, at 5:30 P.M.

Sister M. Crescentiana - Franziska Maier
Born September 16, 1900 at Hocha, Bavaria
Entered our Congregation May 18, 1921
Final Profession August 25, 1927
Died November 27, 1970 in Reading

Sister M. Crescentiana joined the Aspirancy in Hilstrup in 1917. Two of her Sisters, one of whom is still living, also followed God's call to the religious life. Sister came to the U.S.A. as a postulant and was received into the novitiate November 29, 1921. A year after her First Profession, she began her apostolate as teacher in the schools of Philadelphia, Northampton, and Lansford. The last 22 years, since 1944, St. John's School in Haycock was her field of labor. Her health was failing during the past several years. She had to be admitted to the hospital on many occasions for blood transfusions and other treatments, which did not give her too much relief. Finally, in 1966, she was forced to give up her active apostolate as a teacher and was admitted to our infirmary. She suffered much but received the strength to bear her pain through her union with her Lord in Holy Communion.

Sister M. Crescentiana was an excellent teacher, leading her students zealously not only to the acquisition of secular knowledge, but more especially to a knowledge of God and the supernatural and spiritual values in life. Sister was a deeply spiritual person, simple, unassuming, straightforward, and always eager to help wherever she could. She would have loved to continue working for God's glory as a teacher, but beautifully accepted her illness as part of God's plan for her. His will was all that mattered. Sister had a deep devotion to Our Blessed Mother whom she longed to meet. One of her favorite prayers was, "My Mother, my Hope." Is it a coincidence that she had the privilege of meeting Mary in her glory on the anniversary of Our Lady's apparition to St. Catherine Labouré on November 27, 1830?

Sister has asked for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick about three weeks ago. She was beautifully prepared to meet her God. When she spoke of death, she would say: "I am not afraid to die. When I get there, I will just remind Him that He promised me a hundredfold here and life everlasting." She was full of confidence that He would take her straight into Heaven without a detour through purgatory. Sister prayed much for all the many intentions, especially for our dear Congregation. She died quietly and peacefully at 5:30 P.M. on Friday, November 27, while her fellow Sisters were praying with her and for her. We have gained another friend in Heaven. Let us also remember her in our prayers.

The funeral Mass will be on Tuesday, December 1, at 4:00 P.M., after which Sister will be buried in our Motherhouse cemetery.

Sincerely in the Sacred Heart,
Mother M. Bridget, M.S.C.