

St. Michael Convent  
Hyde Park  
Reading, Pa. 19605

June 7, 1979

"Holy is the journey of my life toward you. Holy, too, is the death which awaits me at the road's end."

(Special morning prayers, Affirmation of our Charism,  
on our community day of prayer for vocations).

Dear Sisters,

As we prayed the above in our morning prayers today, our thoughts held the memory of our Sister M. Simpliciana whom the Lord called to Himself at 12:35 am.

Sister M. Simpliciana, MSC - Anna Dahmen  
Born: October 14, 1904 in Aachen, Germany  
First Profession: February 3, 1928  
Died: June 7, 1979 in Reading, Pennsylvania

Sister Simpliciana arrived in the USA in 1927. The first forty years of her apostolic ministry were spent in the domestic departments of seminaries in Columbus, Geneva, and Dayton. In 1967, Sister was transferred to Villa St. Elizabeth, then to Wellsburg, and in 1975, to Lansford.

True to her name, Sister lived her life in a beautiful simplicity, always unassuming and generous. Her joyful nature was reflected in her love for singing and in the quiet peace which seemed to pervade her being.

In 1976 Sister had surgery for cancer. After a series of treatments, it was Sister's wish to return to Lansford to prepare the meals for the Sisters. Her condition, however, grew more serious, and in March of 1979, Sister came to our motherhouse infirmary where she became progressively weaker. Yesterday, her condition became significantly worse and the Sisters took turns watching and praying with her. The Sisters who were present when she died noticed a beautiful expression of peace and contentment on her face as she breathed her last.

About a month ago, Sister Simpliciana had the special joy of a visit from her nephew, Franz, from Germany. His presence meant very much to her and did much to lift her spirits. Earlier this year Sister suffered the loss of her brother, Father John Dahmen, MSC, who was stationed in Papua New Guinea.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be offered for Sister on Saturday at 2:00 pm and we will accompany her to our convent cemetery where she will be laid to rest.

In Christ's love,

Sr. M. Philip, MSC