

August 31, 1980

"I called to the Lord in my distress;
He answered me and freed me."

Ps. 118, Today's Morning Prayer

Dear Sisters,

For the past few weeks our dear Sister Adelena has been calling to the Lord in her distress. This morning, about 1 a.m. he answered her and freed her from years of intense, but patient suffering.

Sister M. Adelena, M.S.C.
Elfriede Croonen
Born: October 11, 1897 in Barmen-Rhld.
First Profession: August 26, 1924
Died: August 31, 1980 in Reading, Pa.

Sister M. Adelena came to America as a Postulant in 1923. Her quiet, prayerful, gentle ways made her life and work fruitful in Sacred Heart Hospital, Allentown, Wedron, Athens, Reading and Pottsville. Most of her apostolic life was spent doing office work or taking care of the dining room. In her free moments, Sister loved to make and distribute the brown scapular of Our Lady.

For the past several years, Sister Adelena suffered from polycythemia, a blood condition which results in an excess of red blood cells. Periodically she had to be bled to decrease the red cells. She also had emphysema, and had to receive oxygen almost constantly.

Last September Sister came to our infirmary from Good Samaritan Hospital, Pottsville. Since then her condition had been getting progressively worse, and her suffering more and more intense. During the past week she often called to the Lord in her distress and begged Him to free her. This morning, quietly and peacefully during sleep, her suffering ended and her new life in Christ began.

The Mass of the Resurrection will be offered for Sister Adelena on Tuesday, September 2nd at 4 p.m. after which she will be laid to rest in our convent cemetery.

In the love of Our Lord,

Sister M. Thomasita, M.S.C.