

July 27, 1988

*"Blessed are they who instruct many to justice,  
they will shine like stars for all eternity."*

Dear Sisters,

These words from Daniel 12:3 surely speak of Sister Apollonia. This morning at 9:40 Sister Apollonia died as she lived - in peace and surrounded by her sisters.



Sister M. Apollonia - Anna Liedhegener  
Born: February 9, 1897 in Schuren, W. Germany  
First Profession: May 16, 1919  
Entered into eternal life: July 27, 1988

Sister Apollonia came to the United States in 1920 and began her teaching ministry in St. Henry's, Philadelphia. She was an upper-grade teacher in Lansford, Coplay, Nazareth, Lebanon, Northampton, Allentown, and Slatington. In the years prior to retirement in 1985, Sister patiently tutored students having difficulties in studies. Even in her retirement at Villa St. Elizabeth she continued tutoring.

Sister truly "instructed many to justice" in her sixty-five years as teacher, principal, and tutor. Her teaching and her life were powerful witness of our M.S.C. Charism. She radiated the compassionate love of Christ to everyone, especially to her students. Sister generously gave of her many gifts and talents as an outstanding teacher. Her ways of teaching, and discipline won the love and respect of her students. She trained many boys to be altar servers. Her ways of leading her students to Christ inspired many to enter the priesthood and religious life. Sister developed an interest in sports and her students delighted in sharing their victories and scores "from under her window." She also "studied" their tricks and shared their interests outside the classroom. Retelling humorous episodes entertained the community.

In community Sister was ever willing to give of herself in outgoing love. Her beautiful smile and sense of humor were ever present and brought cheer wherever she went. Sister will be remembered by our Sisters in the infirmary for her many cheerful visits and her words of encouragement. Her joy and abiding trust were the fruits of a life of deep prayer which she shared with her Sisters. "Have no fear. Trust in the merciful love of God." To those too weak to pray she would say, "God loves his sleeping child" and "gives to his beloved in sleep."

For many years Sister Apollonia was in poor health because of several heart attacks. Her humor and trust seemed to dissipate her suffering. Sister

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came to the infirmary in the summer of 1987 and continued to spread cheer and encouragement. She suffered a massive stroke about two days ago and could now experience God's love "for his sleeping child." As the priest was on his way to join the Sisters at Sister Apollonia's bedside, she peacefully answered the Father's call.

The funeral liturgy will be celebrated on Saturday, July 30, at 11:00 a.m. Burial in the convent cemetery will follow. We will continue to remember our dear Sister Apollonia with love and gratitude in our prayers.

In the love of Our Lord,

*Sister Joanne*  
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