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January 12, 1980

"All peoples will see His glory"  
(Resp. Ps. of today's Liturgy)

Dear Sisters,

Very early this morning our Sister Bertina was called to witness the glory of the Lord.

Sister M. Bertina, MSC  
Maria Baak  
Born: January 10, 1904 in Recklinghausen, Germany  
First Profession: December 1, 1923  
Died: January 12, 1980 in Reading, Pa.

Sister Bertina came to the United States as a postulant in 1922. All of her active years were spent in the teaching apostolate. In those many years she was stationed in Northampton, Palmerton, Philadelphia, Coopersburg, Coaldale, Limeport and Athens, Georgia. She was always known as a good teacher and a person with whom it was very easy to live in community.

In 1975 Sister Bertina came to our infirmary. She was suffering from degenerative osteoarthritis and chronic brain disease. Three years ago Sister's sufferings were increased by a fractured hip. Her state of confusion also began to worsen.

In October Sister Bertina had to be admitted to the hospital. She returned to the infirmary but she never regained her strength; in fact she began to grow weaker. This morning at 1:30 a.m. she was relieved of all her sufferings when she died very peacefully in her sleep.

The Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. and the burial will be on Wednesday, January 14 at 11:00 a.m. in our convent cemetery.

Let us remember our Sister Bertina in love and in prayer.

In the love of our Lord,

*Sister M. Thomasita, M.S.C.*