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July 15, 1993

"Come to Me, all you who are weary and find life burdensome."

(Gospel for today's Liturgy)

Dear Sisters,

This morning at 8:45 A.M., Sister Edwin heard Jesus say, "Come to Me. I will refresh you." These past few days, Sister Edwin struggled to let go of life. For much of the time she was able to follow when sisters prayed with her. Her favorite ejaculation was, "Jesus, you alone are my salvation."

Sister M. Edwin - Marie Fleck
Born: June 17, 1910 in Bucksville, PA
First Profession: August 26, 1930
Died: July 15, 1993 in Reading, Pa.

Sister Edwin very ably and generously filled the "Martha" role during the 63 years of her religious life. These years were spent working in the laundry and/or preparing meals for the elderly, for students, and for the sisters. She was missioned at St. John's in Allentown; at the Marianist high school in Beacon, New York; at the seminary in Columbus, Ohio; with the MSC seminarians and priests in Shelby, Ohio; and at the homes for the aged in Wellsburg, West Virginia and Villa St. Elizabeth in Reading.

Sister Edwin grew up on the farm and so was accustomed to hard work. Like St. Francis, she was very close to Mother Earth. She loved nature and befriended the animals. The ducks and squirrels at Villa St. Elizabeth were her special friends.

Sister was a simple person. It took little to make her happy. She was a good cook and baker and enjoyed preparing little treats for the sisters and elderly guests. Sisters recall that under Sister Edwin's rough exterior was a "heart of gold".

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Sister had many health problems. Diabetes resulted in almost complete blindness and an above-the-knee amputation of her leg. At times it led to mental confusion. However, when a sister informed her of Sister Virginita's death, she clearly responded, "We must be ready to go at any time."

We thank Sister Edwin for serving others so generously. Life now is no longer weary and burdensome. She has found rest.

The Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated on Saturday, July 17, 1993 at 3:30 P.M. in St. Michael's chapel. She will be then be laid to rest in our convent cemetery.

One in the Heart of Jesus,

Sister Teresita MSC

Sister Teresita, M.S.C.