

Provincialate
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July 29, 1989

"Let the just rejoice in the presence of God."
(Morning Prayers)

Dear Sisters,

Truly our Sister Egberta is rejoicing in the presence of God for this evening at 10 p.m. he called her to himself.



Sister M. Egberta - Maria Handler
Born: November 21, 1899, Posaszentkatalin,
Hungary
First Profession: November 24, 1919
Entered into eternal life: July 29, 1989

Sister Egberta came to the United States when she was thirteen and lived with her family in Northampton. She began her ministry in the domestic department in the seminary in Columbus, Ohio. From 1928 to 1946 she worked as a therapist and nurse's aide at our health resort in Wedron, Illinois. In 1946, she went to Sacred Heart Hospital in Norristown where she cared for the babies in the nursery, and from 1958 to 1987 Sister Egberta worked in the sewing room in the hospital, first full time then part time.

Wherever she was she endeared herself to others by her gentleness, kind manner, and cheerfulness. Nothing was ever too much for her in her service of others, and she often took inconvenience upon herself so that others would be spared. Many people remember her kindness and special concern for them. One such person started his life 31 years ago as a premature baby whom Sister Egberta nursed to health. Each year on his birthday this grateful young man brought Sister Egberta a birthday cake in gratitude for what she did for him.

Anything Sister Egberta did in life she did with graciousness, and she was one of those people who succeeded in "growing old graciously" as well. Sister Egberta was a very prayerful person and had a great love for the Blessed Mother. Each day when Sister Engelinde would pray the rosary with her, she would ask sister to add a special prayer to our martyrs.

Over the years, Sister Egberta had several serious medical conditions. However through it all she maintained her tranquility and sense of humor. After she received a pacemaker in 1979, she told us that the doctor had guaranteed her for 5 years! In January of 1988 Sister Egberta had to undergo surgery for cancer. After her stay in the hospital she came to the motherhouse to prepare for her going home, as she expressed it. However, the Lord must have wanted

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her to spread her love among us a little longer for she rallied for several months. For the past two months, she was confined to bed but was always the perfect picture of patience, friendliness, and contentment. In the past few days, Sister Egberta became progressively weaker until she quietly breathed her last.

We thank her for the beautiful presence of Christ's love that she was to us and ask her to pray for us as we continue to be mindful of her.

The Mass of the Resurrection will be offered for Sister on Wednesday, August 2, at 3:30 p.m., and the burial in the convent cemetery will follow.

In the love of our Lord,

Sister Marybune