

Province Center
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November 11, 1992

"Stand up and go your way;
your faith has been your salvation."

(Gospel for Mass, November 11)

Dear Sisters,

These words, addressed to the grateful leper in today's Gospel, were addressed to Sister Florencia today by Jesus as He came to take her home. Sister Florencia was a very faith-filled and faithful person who radiated a sense of peace and joy. She lived her life like a happy song, spreading sunshine all around her. Sister Florencia lived this way in all her relationships--as teacher, as homemaker, as superior, as administrator, and as a community member. Her sense of humor and ready wit endeared her to all.



Sister M. Florencia, MSC - Anna Lapos
Born: November 17, 1895 in Hauto, Pa.
First Profession: November 21, 1916
Died: November 11, 1992 in Reading, Pa.

About two weeks ago, Sister Florencia complained of severe pain in her leg. It was diagnosed as a blood clot which was successfully removed at St. Joseph's Hospital. However, complications set in. Today, while the community was celebrating the birthdays of those sisters born in November, which included Florencia, she died very peacefully at 1:50 P.M., just six days before her 97th birthday. Sister Josepha was at her bedside in the hospital.

Sister began her teaching assignments in 1917 and taught until 1969. Then she used her many gifts for the elderly at St. George's Home in Wellsburg as administrator and superior, at Mt. Trexler in Limeport as patient visitor, and as homemaker in several school communities. She retired in 1979, first to St. Michael's and then to Holy Family Center in 1982.

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Sister was known to be an excellent teacher, having very good rapport with the students. She was a great story teller which made her classes interesting. Her ability to take things in stride and her constant concern for others made her a valuable faculty member as well as community member wherever she was missioned. She knew how to captivate hearts. Those whom she taught and worked with still ask about her.

Florencia's joy was rooted in her love of the Eucharist and her love of Mary. During her hospital stay, the sisters brought her a lovely floral arrangement. She examined each flower and when she came upon a blue flower, sang one of her favorite hymns: "Lovely Lady dressed in blue..."

On Saturday, November 14, at 11:00 A.M., we shall celebrate the Mass of the Resurrection for Sister. She will be laid to rest in our convent cemetery. We are grateful to Sister Florencia for her joyful presence. We will miss that presence but her memory will linger long with us.

In the love of the Sacred Heart,

Sister Teresita, MSC

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