Provincialate Seminary Avenue Hyde Park, Reading, Pa. 19605 Phone: (215) 929-5079

April 17, 1986

"Like a shepherd He will gather the lambs in His arms and carry them close to His heart." (Antiphon-Morning Praise)

Dear Sisters,

This morning at 10:00 a.m., the Good Shepherd came to gather His little lamb, Sr. Grata, and carry her home -- close to His heart.

Sister M. Grata Rosa Pieper

Born: October 3, 1893 First Profession: May 7, 1925 Died: April 17, 1986

Sister M. Grata came to the United States in 1924. She was active in the domestic apostolate in Dayton, Columbus, Wedron, St. Michael's, Reading, St. Henry's, and SS Cyril & Methodius, Reading.

Sister was a simple and gentle lamb of the Lord, always kind to everyone. She had a pleasant word or smile for all whom the Lord put in her path each day. No doubt, she will be remembered by all of us for her kindness!

In 1974, Sister came to the motherhouse and was semi-retired; by 1984, her health was so poor that it was necessary for her to remain in the infirmary. Sister suffered much from severe degenerative arthritis, as well as from a heart condition.

On Sunday, Sister had a mild heart attack. This morning she received Viaticum, the Anointing of the Sick and the Apostolic Blessing. She prayed, "Mother Mary, come!". A few minutes later, quiet and gentle as a lamb, she slipped into the loving arms of her Good Shepherd!

The Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated on Monday at 4:00 p.m., after which she will be buried in the convent cemetery.

In the love of Our Lord,

Sister M. Thomasita, M. S.C.