

M
S | C

Province Center
2811 Moyers Lane
Reading, PA 19605
Phone: (215) 929-5944
FAX: (215) 929-3634

January 26, 1994

"Commit to the Lord your way; trust in Him, and He will act."
(Responsorial Psalm - Sts. Timothy and Titus)

Dear Sisters,

This morning around 7:25 A.M., Sister Illuminata's trust in God was fully realized as He chose to act by calling her home to Himself. Sister Illuminata's health had been gradually failing since her return from her last hospital stay. The sisters watched with her last evening, and just before Mass was to begin at St. Michael's, she died.



Sister M. Illuminata - Franziska Stappert
Born: November 10, 1902 in Hamm, Germany
First Profession: August 26, 1924
Died: January 26, 1994 in Reading, PA

Sister Illuminata came to the United States as a novice in 1923. Sister Patricia, her blood sister, preceded her to the States in 1920 and likewise preceded her in death in 1977. Sister's first ministry was teaching. She taught grades one to three in St. John's, Allentown and SS. Cyril and Methodius, Coaldale for a period of three years. She then went into lab work at St. Joseph's Health Resort in Wedron, Illinois for 28 years. This was followed by work as an X-ray technician for ten years at our hospitals in Norristown, Allentown, and Athens. She then returned to St. Joseph's in Wedron for six years to work again in the lab. She retired to St. Michael's in 1975 and in 1990 joined Holy Family Center as her condition deteriorated.

Sister Illuminata was very hard working. She was not dismayed by challenges. While in Wedron, she took courses at the University of Chicago to learn more about cancer, trying to keep herself updated. In community, she liked to do favors and make surprises for others.

She had a great devotion to Our Lady and faithfully wore the scapular. The day before she died, she was consoled by looking at the pictures of Jesus and Mary on the scapular. She also looked

[over]

MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE SACRED HEART

with great affection at the pardon crucifix. She became calm and began breathing very quietly.

Sister Illuminata would have celebrated her 70th jubilee of religious profession this year. We are grateful to Sister for these many years of service to the community and to God's people.

The Mass of Resurrection will be celebrated for Sister on Monday, January 31, 1994, at 3:30 P.M. After that, she will be laid to rest in our convent cemetery.

United in the Heart of Jesus,

Sister Teresita, MSC