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Provincialate
Seminary Avenue
Hyde Park, Reading, Pa. 19605
Phone: (215) 929-5079
February 16, 1982

"When will I come to the end of my pilgrimage
and enter the presence of God."
(Morning Prayer)

Dear Sisters,

Today at 2:15 p.m. this prayer was answered for our dear Sister Leonilla.

Sister M. Leonilla, MSC - Anna Grosse Fels
Born: October 25, 1895 in Gladbeck, Germany
First Profession: December 11, 1919
Died: February 16, 1982 in Reading, Pennsylvania, USA

Sister Leonilla came to the United States as a junior professed Sister in 1922. In her early days of apostolic involvement, she worked in physiotherapy and during almost all of her many years of activity she took care of the chapel and sacristy. In this work, one would often hear her say, "Nothing is too good for the Lord." It gave her great joy to care for the altars and to prepare for liturgical services. In addition to her thirty-one years in Sacred Heart Hospital, Allentown, Sister was also stationed in Dayton, Columbus, Wedron, St. Michael's in Reading and Limeport. For many years her physical activity was somewhat curtailed due to a heart condition. In 1973 she came to the mother-house to retire. Even in her years of retirement, the chapel and sacristy in Holy Family Villa were her responsibility and her delight.

All who knew Sister Leonilla remember her as a very kind, pleasant person with an ever-ready smile. She was well-liked by others and always enjoyed a good laugh.

On February 4, Sister Leonilla was admitted to St. Joseph Hospital because of her heart condition. This past Friday afternoon we received a call from the hospital saying that Sister was very low and was not expected to live. A few Sisters went immediately to the hospital to be with her. However, later that evening the crisis passed. Today she returned her soul to God as quietly and peacefully as she had lived.

Sister Leonilla often said she was ready to die and that she was well-prepared. We thank and praise God for her life, faithfully lived. As we remember her in our prayers we can be sure that she will be interceding for us.

The Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated on Thursday at 6:30 p.m. The burial will be Friday, February 19, at 8:30 a.m. in the convent cemetery.

In the love of Jesus,

Sister M. Philipe, MSC