

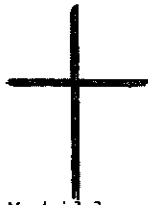
Provincialate
1201 Museum Road
Reading, Pa. 19611
Phone: (215) 376-0138
February 29, 1988

*"Like a deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God."*

(Psalm 42, Today's Morning Prayer)

Dear Sisters,

This often-voiced prayer of Sister Matilda was answered when, at 6:20 a.m., the Lord took her to Himself.



Sister M. Matilda (Thiathilde) - Agnes Schuermann
Born - March 3, 1901 in Freckenhorst, West Germany
First Profession - August 26, 1924
Entered into eternal life - February 29, 1988

Sister Matilda came to the United States as a postulant in 1923. After her first profession, she studied to become a dietitian and served in this capacity in Sacred Heart Hospital and St. John's in Allentown; St. Michael's, Reading; Sacred Heart Home, Coopersburg; and for almost 50 years in Good Samaritan Hospital, Pottsville. In 1980 she joined our retirement community, Holy Family in Reading.

Sister Matilda had a sister in our congregation, Sister M. Talida, who died in Hiltrup in 1982. She also has a priest brother, Father Wolfram Schuermann, OFM, who is living in West Germany.

In her many years of ministry in our hospitals, she showed great love and concern for the patients and did everything possible to make their meals wholesome and attractive. She was very kind and thoughtful and was well-liked by everyone.

Sister Matilda was deeply contemplative in her prayer. "Abba," as she called Him, was the center of her life. She also had a deep devotion to the Blessed Mother and a great love for the Rosary.

Over the past few years, she suffered several small strokes which left her progressively more incapacitated. Last week she had a weak spell but seemed to regain some strength. Again last evening, she had another spell which caused concern. One of the sisters stayed with her during the night. In the early morning, several sisters gathered around her bed to pray the prayers of the dying. As they prayed the closing ejaculation, "Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I breathe forth my soul in peace with you," Sister Matilda did exactly that and entered into the arms of the heavenly Father.

Several years ago, Sister Matilda requested that the Magnificat be sung at her funeral liturgy. We will gladly do that for her.

The Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated on Thursday, March 3, at 3:30 p.m. This would have been her 87th birthday. Afterwards, she will be buried in the convent cemetery. Let us remember our dear Sister Matilda in our prayers with love and gratitude.

In the love of our Lord,

Sister Maryhune