

December 24, 1996

"Today you will know that the Lord is coming,  
and in the morning you will see His glory."  
(Invitatory for December 24)

Dear Sisters,

On this Christmas Eve as our part of the world awaited with expectation the celebration of Christ's birth, and others of you in our MSC family sang the midnight carols, our dear Sister Michaelleen entered into the fullness of the Savior's radiant glory.



Sister M. Michaelleen - Edith Mary Boyle  
Born: August 16, 1919 in Norristown, PA  
First Profession: August 18, 1945  
Died: December 24, 1996 in Reading, PA

Before entering our congregation, Sister Michaelleen worked side by side with our sisters in Sacred Heart Hospital in Norristown. It was customary for Sister to attend early Mass and then help serve the patients' breakfast. Later she would return to the hospital to begin her work in the office.

After her novitiate, Sister Michaelleen returned to serve in the business office and medical record department of our hospitals. In the course of her professional life, Sister ministered in Sacred Heart Hospital in Allentown, as well as in Norristown, Pottsville, and Athens, Georgia, and in the children's home in Coopersburg. In later years, she served as a driver and receptionist at St. Michael's.

A serious heart condition slowed down her ministry. After open heart surgery and a stroke, Sister Michaelleen retired to St. Michael's in 1993. Shortly before celebrating her Golden Jubilee, she suffered still another stroke and was transferred to Holy Family Center.

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Sister Michaelleen will be remembered for her generous and compassionate spirit. During these last years, she would routinely visit other sisters in the health care unit and quietly give and receive a "prayer of blessing". Until her sudden but not unexpected death, Sister retained a great interest in the people around her.

We were all aware that Sister Michaelleen was living on what she called "borrowed time" as she had been at death's door on several occasions. Mindful that the call of the Bridegroom could come at any time, she quietly went about her daily routine. Minutes before her death, while Sister shared coffee with a friend, her vital signs faded away; however, she retained consciousness until her last breath.

We will celebrate the Mass of the Resurrection for Sister Michaelleen on Friday, December 27, 1996 at 3:30 p.m., and then bring her to rest in our convent cemetery. We are grateful for Sister's many years among us and are assured of her prayer for us as we strive to live out our missionary commitment.

Yours in the Heart of Jesus,

*Sister Marie Clark, m.s.c.*