

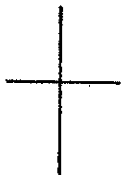
August 29, 1993

"All is of value which comes from Your Hand."

(Opening Prayer for Sunday's Liturgy)

Dear Sisters,

As I read the words of this prayer from this morning's Holy Mass, I could not help but apply them to Sister Sara's death. On Saturday morning as Sister was approaching to receive Holy Communion during Mass in Holy Family Chapel, she tripped and fell. She was anointed while fully conscious by Father Gaspar with all the sisters in attendance. Severe pain indicated that she had broken something, so she was transported by ambulance to St. Joseph Hospital where x-rays confirmed that she had a broken hip. However, they had to postpone the scheduled surgery because of a high fever. This morning, at 3:30 A.M., as the nurse was making her rounds, she found that Sister Sara had died. Yes, "all is of value which comes from the hand of God." Sara would not have to undergo surgery and struggle with learning to walk again.



Sister M. Sara - Anna Wehner
Born: August 18, 1903 in Frauenroth, Germany
First Profession: September 9, 1928
Died: August 29, 1993 in Reading, Pa.

Two weeks ago Sister Sara enjoyed being honored for her 90th birthday. Nine of her family members came from New York and New Jersey to celebrate the day with her. She loved the flowers, the balloons, and the cake with which they surprised her. They sent pictures they had taken so Sara could enjoy them and relive the happiness of her birthday celebration.

Sister Sara came to the United States in 1930. Her first assignment was in the kitchen at St. Joseph's Retreat House in Malvern where she worked for six years. The next two years she spent in food service at Sacred Heart Hospital, Norristown. Then she moved to her beloved St. Mary's Hospital in 1938 where she remained until her retirement to Holy Family Center in January of 1989.

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It was hard for Sister Sara when she first was assigned to Holy Family Community. However, she gradually adapted to the change. She always managed to find a plant to nurture or to place before a statue on the motherhouse grounds. She visited the grave of her sister, Sister Apollinara, almost daily and would see, when possible, that a plant was there.

Flowers were one of the loves of Sister Sara. She had the ability to stick anything into the ground and make it grow. St. Mary's Hospital dedicated a garden in her honor where employees could sit and enjoy their lunch breaks. When it became necessary to move the garden because of expansion of the employees' dining room, they also moved Sister Sara's garden. The new garden was dedicated in 1992. Sister Sara had the joy of returning to St. Mary's to be present for the dedication of the new garden. It was an experience of "going home" for her as she met so many friends whom she loved and who loved her.

Sister Sara was a very generous person, ready to help anyone in need and very perceptive in seeing needs. She was devoted to the poor, especially by helping to get them clothing. Sister Sara was also a jolly, happy person. Others liked to talk with her because of her pleasant disposition. All of these qualities reflected her life of deep prayer.

Sister Sara has now been transplanted to a more beautiful garden than she ever knew on earth. May she continue to nurture all of us through her intercession. We thank her for her 65 years of vowed life.

The Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated at St. Michael's Convent on Wednesday, September 1, at 3:30 P.M. She will then be laid to rest in the convent cemetery.

One in the Heart of Jesus,

Sister Teresita, M.S.C.

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