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July 10, 1993

"As morning breaks we sing of your mercy."

(Morning Prayer)

Dear Sisters,

This morning at 6:50 A.M., Sister Virginita sang the mercies of God. All her fears were allayed as she rested in the arms of God.

Sister Virginita suffered from chronic leukemia. Over the past few months she grew visibly weaker and more anxious. She was frequently strengthened by the anointing of the sick, receiving it again a few days ago. However, she did not rally this time although she came to more peace. Sister ate her supper the evening before and was talkative when Sister Melchiades visited her. This morning, she yielded to God's call.

Sister M. Virginita - Theresia Holt
Born: October 17, 1902 in Teglingen, Germany
First Profession: September 2, 1931
Died: July 10, 1993 in Reading, Pa.

Sister Virginita came to the United States in 1931, a few months before her First Profession. Most of her ministry was in dietary work. For 21 years she worked in the kitchen in the home for the elderly in Wellsburg, West Virginia and for 34 years at St. Mary's Hospital in Athens. Here she prepared all the desserts for the hospital. She was noted for her excellent baking skills, teaching this art to many of the kitchen employees. Some whom she taught are still working at St. Mary's.

Sister Virginita was a very caring and unselfish person. She always had time to help others. In addition to her work in the hospital, she would see to it that the sisters' needs in the convent were taken care of, too. If a sister mentioned to Sister

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Virginita a special like, you could be sure it would be taken care of. If something needed mending, she would be there to repair it. She always showed a joyful presence in doing these things for others.

Sister Virginita retired from St. Mary's in January of 1989. It was difficult for her to leave St. Mary's, but she knew it was time for her to join Holy Family Community. She was a prayerful person all her life and it was this that sustained her through difficult times.

We thank Sister Virginita for her loving and generous life as an MSC sister. The Mass of Resurrection will be celebrated on Monday, July 12, 1993 at 3:30 P.M. in St. Michael's chapel. She will then be laid to rest in our convent cemetery.

One in the Heart of Jesus,

Sister Teresita, MSC

Sister Teresita, M.S.C.