



Accepting Long-Suffering

Victory Noll
P. O. Box 109
Huntington, IN 46750
260-356-0628

September 30, 2002

Dear Sisters, Associates, Family members and Friends,

Sister Helen Marie's long-suffering began as a child when her sight was diminished on one eye during play with other children. Her long-suffering was climaxed on Monday, September 16, 2002 at 4:30 p.m. when she peacefully and quickly slipped into God's reward for her that is called Eternity.

Sister had longevity, too, living for 97 years with awareness of life until the morning of her death. On December 30, 1904 she was born to Weston P. and Mary H. Beall. She was accepted into the Victory Noll Community on September 4, 1930—when the Community was only eight years old, and Professed on February 11, 1934. Early in her religious life, she worked as one of Father John Sigstein's secretaries by coordinating the 2500 Club. The goal of this fund-raising project was to ask 2500 persons to contribute \$1.00 per month to assist Father's newly-founded Religious Community in its needs.

Prayer life was important to Sister. One of the Sisters was called "The Sunday Visitor" because she prayed with Sister each Sunday. Other Sisters also made prayer essential to their visit. Her crucifix and rosary were always at hand. An important request for her funeral liturgy was for the Magnificat to be sung.

Sister did Mission work of catechetics, home visiting, social services in Arizona, California, Florida, Indiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and Utah. She came to Victory Noll in 1977 assuming responsibilities and then retiring.

Family members recall her enjoyment of cookies and always brought a supply when visiting. On the last evening of her life, she asked for a bite of cookie and she also asked to hear about any Community news. In previous weeks while growing weaker, her nightly comments to visiting Sisters on third floor of Holy Family Health Care Center varied from "Tell me what's going on around here," to "Who are the Jubilarians?" and "What Sisters are at Victory Noll for a visit?"

Sister was known for having the art of organization. On one occasion when sent to take census with another Sister in Albuquerque they lived in a motel. While spending several months together in this unusual living situation, Sister Helen Marie's companion found that her organization skills along with being a good person to work with made the experience quite enjoyable. In another mission, a Sister reported that Sister liked Solitaire and periodically played the game on a bed-table before retiring.

Sister Helen Marie was preceded in death by two brothers, John Weston Beall and Donald Beall, and two Sisters, Marie Beall and Marguerite Beall Mills, the latter of whom spent the last five years of her life at Victory Noll.

The Vigil Service was on Tuesday, September 17th and Mass of Christian Burial on Wednesday, September 18th. Family members attending the Vigil Service were Sister's nephew, David Mills of Des Moines, IA, her niece by way of marriage, Shelby Beall of Springfield, IL, and her grand-niece, Donna Palazzolo of Sherman, IL. Joining them for the Funeral Mass were Sister's grand nephew Paul Mills and wife Diane of Portage, IN, all of whom participated in the liturgy.

Father Thomas Fahey in his Funeral Liturgy homily asks, "Was Sister Helen Marie a saint?" We all agree that Sister was/is a saint after her life of long-suffering.

In God's peace, joy, love,

Sister Dolores Tringl

Sister Dolores Tringl
General Secretary
Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters