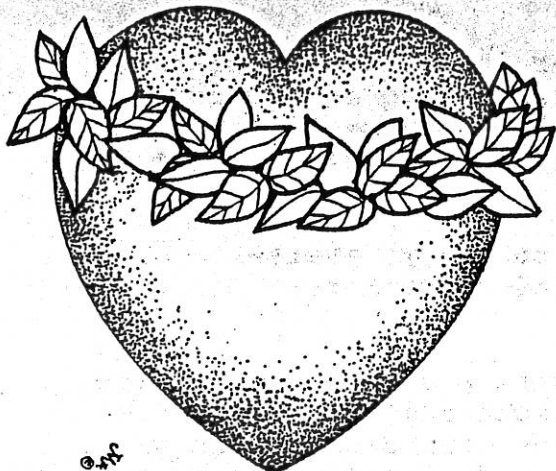


January 31, 2001



"And all I take with me as
I leave is your love
and the memories of all
that we have shared. So I
truly enter my new life
as a millionaire."
(a line taken from a
typewritten poem
found in her book)

Dear Sisters:

As the New Year advances we deeply feel the loss of another "Companion on the Journey." Sister Camilla Cray died peacefully in Huntington Memorial Hospital Wednesday, January 24, 2001 about 11:00 p.m.

Sister Camilla fell Tuesday, January 16, early in the morning in her room. A plate was put in her hip that morning by surgery in the hospital. She was being visited by the Sisters and received Holy Communion each day. She was very weak and asked for short visits. We welcomed her return to Victory Noll Tuesday, January 23. The following morning she was taken to the hospital. There she was made more comfortable. Sister Marianne O'Neil, OP, was with her that night when she passed away.

Sister Camilla Cray was born March 17, 1917 in Barrington, Illinois, to William and Louise (Steinbuck) Cray. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Paul Cray. The survivors are: a sister, Julia Kennedy of Northbrook, Illinois; a brother, William Charles Cray, Jr., of Southern Pines, North Carolina, and nieces and nephews.

She entered Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters congregation October 28, 1941 and made first vows August 5, 1944. She was a 2001 jubilarian of 60 years.

After first profession the ministry of Sister Camilla was teaching in religious education classes in Indiana. After finishing nurses' training she was on the nursing staff in a clinic in San Diego eight years and in Victory Noll Health Care Center forty years.

All will miss the small Sister in white helping some one on third floor or at the pharmacy sharing some encouragement as well as medications. One of her bookmarks was a newspaper clipping of some years. One line especially caught her spirit:

"Why not give Him everything to carry, everything to do and your heart and hands for Him to use?"

We gathered in chapel for rosary and welcome to Sister Friday afternoon. Julia Kennedy, nieces and nephews of the Kennedys and Crays with their families joined us at the wake in the evening. Sisters and nephews and nieces captured so well the spirit of our sojourner and their aunt as they told their stories and memories. Refreshments were served in the dining room afterward and conversation continued.

Liturgy of Christian Burial was presided by Father Thomas Fahey Saturday morning at 10:30. About 15 members of the family were with us to give thanks and praise to God. The prelude was I Sing a Maid and a violin-organ selection Ave Maria. Jerusalem, My Destiny; Eye Has Not Seen; Pan de Vida; How Great Thou Art were included in the Mass music. Father's homily closed with a question and answer.

"The Sacred Writer exclaims, 'Where shall we find a valiant woman?' We can answer: Here she is. Sister Camilla shouts out to us from heaven. 'Be brave, be good, keep the faith, finish the race.'"

The weather was not promising and the usual service in the cemetery was prayed in the gathering space.

A delicious dinner was served.

Sister Camilla, may you remember our needs so well and continue to speak for us.

Sincerely yours,

Sister Marjorie

Sister Marjorie Curran
General Secretary