June 28, 1995

"If anyone loves me, She will hold to my words And my Father will love her, And we will come to her."

Dear Sisters:

These words of the Gospel Acclamation
were sung at Sister Teresita Grzeslo's funeral June 8. The Father
and Son as they promise to anyone who loves, came for Sister about
10:00 AM, June 6, 1995. She had been unable to take an active part
in life since her serious cancer surgery a year ago. She has been
waiting with her smile of love, faith and patience each day. Sunday,
Sister's condition seemed to be changing, Sisters were taking turns
sitting and praying with her.

Sister Teresita was born October 27, 1927, in Chicago to Peter Joseph and Mary Orlos Grzeslo. Her parents and four brothers preceded her in death. Surviving are: four brothers, Joseph Grzeslo. Petersburg, Florida; John Grzeslo, Sylvester Grzeslo both of Chicago, Illinois; Eugene Grzeslo of Wisconsin; three sisters, Mrs. Rose (Joe) Kappa, West Covina, California; Mrs. Barbara (Richard) Berkowicz, Justice, Illinois and Sister Framcesca Grzeslo SSJ-ToSF, Sun City, Arizona.

Sister Teresita entered Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters Congregation November 27, 1946 and made first vows August 5, 1949. She served in missions in California, Texas and Bolivia. While caring for her mother in Chicago for five years, Sister had given Baptism instructions in English and Spanish at a parish there.

After her mother's death, she began studies preparing for a South American ministry and Sister Teresita was missioned to Bolivia, South America by Sister Mary Louise Rowney, President at that time, and Victory Noll Sisters in a ceremony July 21, 1990. A part of the meaningful prayer follows:

"Heavenly Father, who caused the children of Israel to walk with dry feet through the midst of the sea and showed the Three Wise Men, by the guiding of a star, the way that led to you, be with our Sister Teresita so that she may reach her destination now, and in the end, come to the haven of eternal salvation."

Besides ministering in health groups, mothers' clubs, family preparation for sacraments, liturgies, etc., Sister Teresita was encouraging the people in Bolivia in many ways even to planting trees for their future enjoyment. The ups-and-downs of missionary life in a foreign country did not change her spirit. While on a home visit last summer she became ill and returned to Victory Noll. Through diagnosis, surgery and treatment she kept faith and trust in God-at-work in her.

Relatives and family were with us on Wednesday afternoon for rosary. The wake in the evening was in stormy weather conditions with no lights. A number of Sisters attending the Discernment Workshop were here from the missions. A reception followed in a room near the Chapel.

Mass of the Resurrection was offered by Father Thomas Fahey. After the Laying of the Pall members of the family took part in a beautiful Placing of Roses Refrain and the Readings.

The day was pleasant. We sang the Recessional "On Eagles' Wings" as we left the Chapel. Father Fahey led the Service in the Cemetery and we sang the traditional "We Have a Holy Mother."

Relatives, friends and Sisters enjoyed a delicious dinner in the dining rooms after the funeral.

Sincerely in Jesus and Mary,

Lister Marjories Curran