

Sister Amelia Villanueva  
**Sister Amelia Villanueva**

**Helping Others**

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

Dear Sisters, Associates, Family Members and Friends,

Sister Amelia Villanueva's years of long-suffering with cancer were climaxed on Thursday, May 1, 2003 at 5:00 PM, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, when she quietly breathed her last.

It seems fitting that God called her on the Feast of St. Joseph because, like him, she had special talent with her hands. She had the art of doing mechanical repairs such as fixing clocks, watches, small ovens, and many other items needing technical and delicate repairs. She helped others with her gift. One Sister described her as "Making something out of nothing."

Sister Amelia was born in Pueblo, Colorado on September 1, 1924 to Emilio Villanueva and Henrietta Montalvo Villanueva. She is survived by five sisters and two brothers: Sally Villanueva of Pueblo, CO, Emilia Mahoney of Charles Town, WV, Dorothy Ketchem of Sacramento, CA, Theresa Moody of Martinez, CA, Rita Villanueva of Pueblo, CO, Louis Villanueva of Santa Barbara, CA, Ray Newton of Sacramento, CA. She was preceded in death by one brother and one sister, George Villanueva and Caroline Villanueva. Sister entered Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters on September 6, 1950 and made first vows on August 5, 1953.

Sister's Vigil Service was held on Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM and her Mass of Christian Burial on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2003. Present for the Mass were Victory Noll Sisters from nearby missions, Rita Johann Berg and her sister, Patricia Johann O'Rourke both from White Pigeon, MI, Sandy Williams from Columbus, IN, Maria Garcia, her daughter-in-law Gloria Garcia and Helen Espinosa from Ft. Wayne, IN, Jerry Bowers, Eleanor Green and Lula May Knotte from Huntington. No members of the family were able to attend.

Many years of Sister Amelia's almost fifty-three years as a Victory Noll Sister were spent in the missions of Texas: San Angelo, El Paso, Big Spring, Lubbock, Midland, Brownsville, and San Antonio. Sister also spent years in California and Colorado. She returned to Victory Noll in 1986 to do volunteer work and later retire.

"Helping Others" by using her gifts was shown one day when Sister Amelia approached a Sister recuperating from serious eye surgery. The prognosis was that some vision would never be recovered. Sister Amelia said, "I know that I have cancer and that I am going to die. I do have a good eye and I am wondering if there was some way that I could give that eye to you now." And... the Sister with the eye problem thanked God for Sister's generosity but knew that eye transplantation was not a medical possibility for her.

During the Mass of Christian Burial, Father Thomas Fahey said "Sister Amelia suffered so long. She had a heavy cross to carry, but suffering has a great value when united to the suffering of Christ." We ask Sister Amelia to intercede for us as we live out our lives striving to be united to Christ in His suffering and glorious resurrection.

In God's peace, joy, love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sister Dolores Tringl". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Sister Dolores Tringl  
General Secretary  
Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters