

June 21, 1986



ENTER INTO THE JOY!

Victory Noll
Huntington, Indiana
June 21, 1986

Dear Sisters and Associates,

The crowning of her faithful discipleship came quickly this morning on the feast of St. Aloysius at 5:15 a.m. when Sister Juliana died peacefully while having one of her early morning attacks of asthma. Her death was the breakthrough to her new life in Christ Jesus! Let us rejoice with her!

Sister Juliana returned to Victory Noll from Tucson where she had been bursar on March 23, 1969. At that time Sister Juliana was experiencing symptoms of severe arthritis and a chronic lung condition. During her seventeen years at Victory Noll, arthritis and asthma have been the main contributing factors of her failing health. Even though she was weakened by her condition, she continued, when able, to play the piano and organ to the delight of the sisters.

During the past few weeks, Sister Juliana had been more active than she was during the winter months. She had been going to the dining room for at least one meal a day. On June 20th, she had been to all meals in the dining room and in the evening played the piano in the creativity room for the sisters.

Sister had also been having early morning attacks of asthma. She slept most of the night on Friday, but early Saturday morning she got up at 4:45 and called the nurse aide, Sharon Young to say that she was having trouble breathing. Sharon called Sister Camilla immediately who came and started oxygen and gave her an injection of adrenalin. Sharon also called Sister Virginia Schmitt who came over and administered another injection of adrenalin. Sister Juliana died very peacefully at 5:15 a.m. with Sisters Camilla and Virginia at her bedside. Many of the Sisters came into the room to pray for Sister Juliana.

Perhaps the one thing that comes to mind when we remember Sister Juliana was her ability to delight us with her music. She studied at the Conservatory of Music in St. Louis and had the touch of the true artist. How many times she has delighted us with beautiful music played with her own artistry! Her gift and the generosity with which she shared it with us will always be remembered with gratitude!

After her profession in 1932 and in 1933, she was organist at Victory Noll. The next 35 years of her religious life were spent in ministry in California, New Mexico, Colorado, Indiana, Virginia, Ohio and Arizona. Twenty-four of those years were spent in positions of authority. In 1969, Sister Juliana returned to Victory Noll from Tucson to retire at Victory Noll Health Care Center in prayer ministry.

Sister Juliana was born April 13, 1906 in St. Louis, the third oldest of nine children. She entered the Congregation from St. Henry's parish in St. Louis July 12, 1929 and made first profession of vows August 15, 1932 at Victory Noll. She celebrated her Golden Jubilee August 5, 1979.

Sister's body was brought back to Victory Noll at four o'clock on Sunday afternoon and we formed an honor guard into the chapel where her body was placed in state. Evening Praise followed immediately which was the evening Office of the Dead.

At 7:00 p.m. on Sunday evening, a wake service was held in Memorial Chapel where Sisters Mary Loretta Srill and Mary Joan Ginsterblum did the readings and several persons shared their remembrances of Sister Juliana.

Sister Juliana is survived by four sisters, Sister Cletus, PHJC, Sister M. Antoinette, Good Shepherd, Sue Keyman and Marie Nelson and two brothers John and JOseph Schmitt. Mother Cecilia and Regina Lindenberger preceded her in death.

Most of Sister's family arrived in time for the wake. Sister Cletus, Sue, John and his wife Mercille, Joe and his wife Helen, Sister's nieces, Barbara Osterman with her two children, Mary Lindenberger and Antoinette Justice with her husband Richard and their four children and also Richard's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Justice of Decatur. Sister Antoinette and Marie Nelson were unable to attend.

The Liturgy of Christian Burial was celebrated by Father Giles, OFM, Cap., Sister Mary Bernardette Wade and Mary Lindenberger placed the pall on the casket, Sister Angela Marzen did the first reading; Sister Germaine Stadler did the responsorial and alleluia verse; Sister Lucille Martinez did the second reading; Sister Marjorie did the petitions; John, Joe and Sue brought up the gifts and Sister Carmen Montoya sang Shubert's Ave Maria at the preparation of the gifts. Father Giles homily centered on remembering - to remember our departed with prayer is an act of faith - to celebrate their entrance into eternal life with a meal is an act of unity. He also mentioned that the most beautiful memorial we can give to a loved one is a remembrance in prayer and gratitude for the gift of their life.

Sister Mary Louise led the prayers of commendation at the end of the liturgy and prefaced them with her thoughts of Sister Juliana and Mother Cecilia.

The walk to the cemetery was pleasant. I was thrilled to see so many of our sisters present to honor Sister Juliana. Her grave is around the turn to the left of the road. After the graveside prayers, we returned to the dining room where Vince had dinner waiting for us.

Again, we pause to thank the Father for the reflection of his love shown in Sister Juliana. May she intercede for us in all our needs.

The Grail translation of Psalm 146 as it appears in the Office of the Dead (Breviary) speaks to me of Sister Juliana - "My soul give praise to the Lord, I will praise the Lord all my days, make music to my God while I live." May she now experience the music of heaven!

With love in Jesus and Mary,

Sister Germaine Stadler