

April 20, 1998

Dear Sisters:

"For the greater glory of God and the honor of Our Blessed Lady of Victory, I, Catechist Mary Marguerite Shields pledge myself to consecrate my life as a member of The Society of Missionary Catechists of Our Blessed Lady of Victory to the work of imparting religious instruction and of giving a christian training to the poor children in needy, scattered missions, according to the constitution and rules. Furthermore, I pledge myself to uphold the original spirit and foundation of the society and neither by my own act nor in conjunction with others attempt to change the end and purpose for which this society was founded. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen."

Pledge of Stability pronounced after first vows  
September 8, 1935.

Sr. Marguerite Shields was called by her Savior to another life March 27, 1998 about 4:45 in the morning. Sr. Mary Rosella Lengerich had just left Sister and the nurses in the room when death came peacefully and gently in Holy Family Health Care Center. She had appreciated the sisters sitting with her in prayer the past few weeks. She had been on oxygen at times. A congestive heart weakened her little by little.

Sr. Marguerite was born May 3, 1904 in Omaha, Nebraska to Ed and Regina (Boyce) Shields and was baptized in St. John's Church in Omaha. Sister attended Omaha Central High School and was employed in the city as a file clerk before entering the religious life.

Sr. Marguerite came to Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters congregation September 18, 1932. In accordance with her Pledge of Stability she began the ministry in states of Indiana, New Mexico, California, Alabama, Kentucky, Michigan, Arizona and Texas which includes Victory Noll. In 1991 Sister returned to Victory Noll for health reasons.

Sr. Marguerite has been a cheerful person during these 63 years in the congregation. Her warm smile and hearty laugh were pleasing to everyone. She could always enjoy a joke. It seemed to be the "little things" in life that pleased her so much.

The Wake Service was Sunday evening, March 29, in Memorial Chapel. The theme and music: The Light of Christ, I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light, Sing with All the Saints in Glory, and a refrain, Shine in Our Hearts, Lord Jesus. Sister's brother, Richard Shields of Englewood, Colorado was present and met us during the reception afterwards.

The Liturgy of Christian Burial was presided by Father Fahey Monday morning. One could see Sr. Marguerite living out her Pledge of Stability as Father reminded each of us we must daily die to self to receive the new life Jesus has for us. Sister Marguerite has heard, "Well done good and faithful servant" so will the faithful.

We Have a Holy Mother closed the burial ritual in the cemetery.

Sister Marguerite, we have loved you in life, we believe you loved us. Please pray for us to live the gift of faith, each of us have, til we hear those beautiful words from Jesus, "well done."

Sincerely yours,

*Sr. Marjorie*

Sr. Marjorie Curran  
General Secretary

