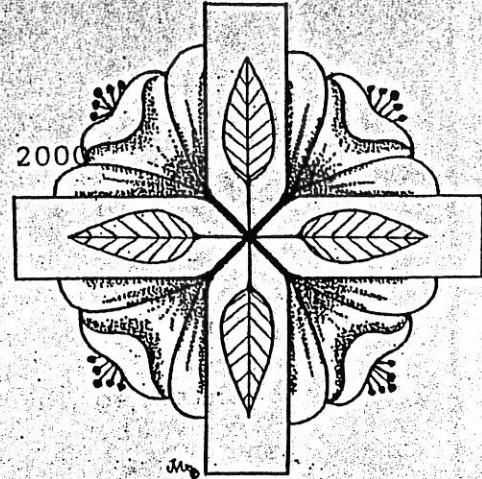


December 15, 2000



"We revere the Cross, not in itself, but as a sign and symbol of what fidelity to God means. It means choosing His Will above all other wills, His righteousness above expediency, His pleasure above our own. It involves a commitment to struggle for truth, peace, and justice. It means living as Jesus did and taking the consequences as He did, good and bad."

(taken from Sister Celestine's notes)

Dear Sisters:

Sister Celestine Feik died quietly in her sleep during the early hours of the day, Monday, December 11, 2000. She was found by the charge nurse about 5:30 that morning. There was a check of rooms a few hours before and she seemed to be all right at that time.

Sister Celestine Feik was born April 27, 1913, in Humphrey, Nebraska, to Florian Peter and Catherine (Rollman) Feik. Both parents are deceased.

Survivors in her family include three sisters, Catherine Weigel, East Hampton, Connecticut; Dorothy Hajek, Marion, Kansas; Ruth Weigel of Wichita, Kansas. Two brothers and three sisters preceded Sister in death.

Sister Celestine entered Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters congregation March 13, 1938. She ministered in the states of Nevada, California, Utah, and Colorado for about fifty years in religious education, home visiting, home nursing and home care.

She returned to Victory Noll in 1991 and ministered in many ways in household duties and sewing. Her favorite craft seemed to be making rosaries and especially with Job's Tears seeds. She gave Father Fahey some seeds to plant. As is usual, Father's crop was bountiful so this partnership flourished as Sister Celestine was spending happy hours making rosaries with Job's Tears. Father was cultivating the seeds for more rosaries.

Father Thomas Fahey presided at the Liturgy of Christian Burial Wednesday morning. The prelude was an organ/violin instrumental presentation by Sisters Dorothy Anne Lengerich and Mary Magdalen Heim of Ave Maria and the Schola sang "Is Your Heart Prepared for a King?"

"I am glad to be home" was the theme of Father's homily. Is she saying, "I was so tired, so worn out going and coming from doctors, I was so tired of fighting for every breath I took, I am now ready to rest for a long time?" This must have been her thinking when she chose the Gospel reading, "Come to me all you who labor."

Sister's choices for music were "On Eagle's Wings", "I Have Loved You", "I Shall Arise", and "How Great Thou Art."

Final Commendation prayers were in the chapel because of weather conditions. Quite a number of Sisters walked to the cemetery with the hearse to the grave site.

As Father had said in his homily, "Last Sunday we saw that our destiny is to be with God forever. We prayed for that union. For Sister Celestine it is now a reality." We are happy for you, Sister Celestine, and we will be remembering you at prayer and we know you will not forget us.

Sincerely yours,

Sr. Marjorie

Sr. Marjorie Curran
General Secretary