



August 20, 1998

Dear Sisters:

It was as if Sister Madelon LoRang was asking God for one more favor, this time for herself, to have a place from where she could participate with the Golden Jubilarians in their liturgy and celebration August 5. The afternoon of August 4 her soul left the tired body in a room of Holy Family Health Care Center. Sister Madelon entered eternal life about 2:40 very quietly with Sisters Florentine Lohr, Mary Rosella Lengerich, Rose Elizabeth and the nurse, Maria Lund, at her side. Soon after we met in the chapel to pray the rosary.

Though Sister Madelon has not responded very much since she fell and fractured her leg July 16, she has acknowledged our attention to her with a smile at times. She had not seemed to be in much pain but was weak. She died naturally without oxygen or medical supports of any kind.

Sister Madelon LoRang was born in McGregor, Iowa, to Jacob and Margaret (Lei) LoRang April 25, 1899.

As a young woman Sister Madelon's profession was chiropractic. Yet early in her life she changed careers. She entered Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters congregation January 20, 1925, when there were fewer than two dozen members in the group. The congregation was three years old. She took preliminary training at Victory Training Institute and was in the juniorate two years. She made first vows February 11, 1927.

One can picture Sister Madelon's enthusiasm to be appointed to the missions of Cerrillos, New Mexico; Lubbock, Texas; Victory Mount, New Mexico; Santa Paula, California and Smelter, Texas those years immediately after her profession of first vows. She also made some trips on publicity collections during those years. She later ministered in Ohio, Arizona, Nevada and New Jersey.

Sister must have brought a love of God to many people in those areas as she shared her faith in the classes, aided the poor and ill and prayed for the welfare of all.

Sister Madelon returned to Victory Noll September 1, 1971. She was sacristan in the Memorial Chapel for many years and took an interest in the activities. Prayer was her priority and especially the Mass. She was a familiar sight in the chapel with her bible.

Besides her parents, Sister Madelon was preceded in death by: three brothers, Matthew LoRang; Lambert LoRang; John LoRang and three sisters, Annie Thomas; Margaret Mills and Catherine Cottier.

Survivors include nieces and nephews of three generations.

The services commenced Friday afternoon August 7. The Welcoming and Blessing the Body was in the afternoon with Sister Mary Ellen Descourouez presiding. Then we prayed the rosary.

Sister Madelon had requested some selections for the Mass of the Resurrection: Gospel reading, John 15 (9-17), Carey Landry's God is so Good and I Have Loved You.

Father Thomas Fahey was presider at the Mass and Sister John Francis Radler was cross bearer; Sisters Mary Rosella Lengerich and Rose Elizabeth Hohner laid the pall. Sister Grace Marie Samblanet laid the christian symbol (community medal); Sisters Callista Ley and Gertrude Spetter were readers. Renee Cottier, a grandniece, read the intercessions and Ron Cottier, a nephew, and his wife Joyce, carried the gifts. Final commendation prayers were by Sister Janet Thill.

Madonna Jeffers tolled the bell as we were in procession to the cemetery. It was a beautiful morning to walk and reflect on this life of almost 100 years lived out for love of Jesus and Mary.

Sister Madelon, Father's words were so in tune with your life: "It was good to have her here." Thank you, Sister, you will be missed.

Sincerely in Jesus and Mary,



Sister Marjorie Curran
General Secretary