



Victory Noll  
Huntington, Indiana  
March 21, 1988

"The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come!" Let her who hears answer, Come!"

Dear Sisters and Associates,

We never expected Sister Rose Hornby to be summoned so quickly, but that is the way the Lord called her early Friday morning, March 18, 1988 at 5:00 o'clock a.m. the day before the great feast of St. Joseph. Debbie, the night nurse had been with Sister Rose and had left her for a few minutes. When she returned, Sister Rose was dead, she had slipped into eternity very quietly and peacefully. Sisters Gertrude, Camilla, Virginia and Martha were called and came quickly to kneel and pray.

Sister Rose returned to Victory Noll from her mission in Iaeger, West Virginia on August 5, 1985. The mission of Iaeger had just been closed and Sister Rose was still very ill from a heart attack which occurred in July. Sister had been hospitalized several times because of heart trouble. After she returned to the Noll, she began to have some type of Seizure disorder. This seemed to disappear after a time. Sister Rose was then able to perform light duties and was always willing to help whenever possible. She felt strong enough to attend the November workshop in St. Louis in 1986 and then spent several weeks with Sisters Patricia and Kathleen in Santa Monica. On her return to the Noll on January 8, 1987, she did become ill on the plane and the authorities would not allow her to board the plane in Indianapolis, so Sisters Virginia Schmitt and Camilla Cray drove down to bring her back to Victory Noll. She recovered nicely.

Sister Rose became a familiar sight here in OLV building as she came for the mail for the Sisters in Holy Family. If she was a little early, you could always find her in the library or Chapel waiting until the mail was sorted. Sister made this little journey daily until two weeks before she died. Just two weeks before, she had a severe seizure while she was having her hair fixed. She was put to bed immediately on third floor. These seizures and her heart condition worsened. Sister was conscious but she was unable to walk without assistance. Early Friday morning at 5:00 a.m., Sister Rose slipped quietly into eternity.

Sister Rose spent 28 years of her religious life in the missions of Indiana, New Mexico, Texas, Kentucky, Michigan, Tennessee, Massachusetts and West Virginia. In 1942 she returned to Victory Noll to organize the library and then spent sixteen years as librarian and teach of English and Music. The library was housed in what is now the Sigstein Center. Later, it was moved to the what was the old dining room. After her position as librarian, Sister returned to the missions of San Pierre, Richmond, Ky. and Reed city, Michigan. On August 25, 1967, she traveled to Evansville to care for her mother. She remained in Evansville until January 10, 1970 when she brought her Mother to Victory Noll. Mrs. Hornby was the first Mother to receive the loving care of the nursing staff and the sisters at Victory Noll.

After her Mother's death on April 1, 1974, Sister Rose was free again to return to the missions. For the next eleven years she worked in Tennessee, New Bedford and Iaeger. In 1985, she returned to the Noll from Iaeger because of illness, always hoping and praying that she might become strong enough to return to the missions, but that never became a reality for her.

Sister Rose was born November 27, 1907, the fifth child in a family of six children in Siberia, Indiana. Sister Rose was separated from her four sisters and 3-month old brother when typhoid destroyed her home. Different families of the parish adopted the

children. Through a Benedictine Nun at Ferdinand being transferred to Evansville, Rose was taken there. Through the pastor's housekeeper, the Hornby's heard about Rose and came to inquire. Rose was adopted at the age of four years. She spoke only German while the Hornby's spoke only English. This was a further heartache for the child. After a time, a bi-lingual school girl was located who lived with the Hornby's until Rose learned sufficient English. Rose lost contact with her sisters and brother.

After college and during her employment with a Structural Engineering Firm, Sister Rose saw a picture of Catechist Hannah Barthen in New Mexico driving a team of horses with a wagon-load of children. Being a lover of horses and the out-door life, Sister Rose wrote to Victory Noll and subsequently visited there. She entered with the class of seven candidates on February 8, 1930 and made first profession of vows at Victory Noll on March 25, 1933. Sister celebrated her Golden Jubilee at Victory Noll with Sisters Josephine Cima and Mary Gertrude Siegfried in 1980.

I might add here that after her Mother's death and at the urging of her attorney, Rose inquired about and had a reunion with Mary, Catherine, Margaret and Isidore. Clara, the oldest, died in 1937. Catherine is now deceased. Mary died in 1987. Sister Rose and Margaret attended Mary's funeral last May.

Besides Margaret and Isidore, Sister Rose is survived by her legal cousins, Alleen Stein, Albert Stein, Carl Speis and Helen Muth Hall of Evansville.

Margaret Klueh of Ferdinand and Catherine and Tom McIntyre of Louisville, Ky. arrived in time to meet the body Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. Four Sisters of Providence from Terre Haute arrived at 4:00 p.m. also. We are grateful for their expression of such loving thoughtfulness. After a quick lunch, Sisters Miriam Therese Greb, s.p., Gertrude Marian Bauer, s.p., Francis Pierre Pägels, s.p., and Clement Brennan, s.p. were on their way back to Terre Haute.

The Liturgy of Christian Burial was celebrated by Father Giles, O.F.M.Cap., on Monday, March 21, 1988 at 10:00 a.m. Sisters Mary Louise and Camilla placed the pall on the casket, Sisters Martha and Mary Loretta did the first and second readings, Sister Germaine sang the responsorial, Sister Gertrude offered the prayers of the faithful and Sisters Helen Marie Beall and Margarita Aragon carried the gifts. Father Giles reminded us again how we must continue to yearn for eternal life. "This is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks upon the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life. Him, I will raise up on the last day." St. Augustine says that the entire life of a good Christian is an exercise of holy desire. "You do not yet see what you long for," says St. Augustine, "but the very act of desiring prepares you, so that when he comes you may see and be utterly satisfied." "Our desiring grows to the extent that we do not fill ourselves with what the world holds out to us."

"In the midst of what the modern world offers us, the Church performs a service for us by confronting us with the realities of dying and death - to arouse the power of self-giving and hope. A Church in whose midst there is the good news of death and resurrection of One who has gone before, we must also speak of the death of those who follow that One. And our whole life is enriched.... Out of our uncertainty, dependency, and humanity, we turn to God and pray. In the words of Wisdom, we hear His response: "Those who trust in me shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with me in love, because grace and mercy are with my holy ones and my care is with my elect."

Sister Virginia Schmitt prayed the prayers of commendation at the end of the Liturgy. Many of the Sisters walked to the cemetery for the graveside prayers. It was a beautiful sunny day but the wind was still quite cold. After the service, we returned to the house to enjoy a tasty dinner and visit. Margaret, Catherine and Tom left very shortly after dinner as they had a long ride ahead of them.

Another opportunity to ponder our own desire for eternal life and our own readiness to "come" in answer to His call. We thank you, Lord of heaven and earth, for the reflection of your love and goodness in our Sister Rose exemplified in her loving thoughtfulness of others.

In Jesus through Mary, *Sister Germaine*