



## **SISTER ANNE VERONICA McNULTY, OLVM**

Sister Anne Veronica died quietly about 12:30 AM, February 9, 2017, at Saint Anne Communities at Victory Noll.

Sister Anne Veronica was born in Lorain, Ohio, on June 27, 1924, the third child of Patrick McNulty, Sr. and Bridget Hyland McNulty. She was baptized on July 6, 1927, at Saint Mary's Church, the church that would play a significant role in her early life. She was preceded in death by her parents and both of her siblings, Patrick McNulty, Jr., and Mary Agnes McNulty. She is survived by several nieces and nephews and her Victory Noll Sisters with whom she shared life and community for 66 years.

Sister Anne Veronica grew up across the street from Saint Mary's and attended not only church there, but also elementary and high school. After graduation from Saint Mary's high school, she attended secretarial school and worked as a secretary for nine years before she made the decision to enter religious life. She wrote that it was a tough decision because she "loved sports, dancing and just plain fun." She even won first place in a dance contest at a parish picnic. Even though she did take the long road to religious life, she entered the Congregation of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters on October 6, 1951, and made first vows on August 5, 1954. Her first missions were in Michigan, California, Colorado and Vermont, where she did ministry in Religious Education. She served for 37 years in Ohio where she was involved in Pastoral Ministry and Religious Education. She had a special passion for work with people with disabilities. She returned to Victory Noll in October of 2008.

Sister Anne Veronica was a life-long learner and enjoyed studying and learning. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from University of Detroit in Michigan in 1969, and a Masters of Arts in Theology from the University of Notre Dame in Indiana in 1974. She continued to attend workshops and participate in ongoing formation. She attended and completed the pastoral ministry certification from the Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio, in 1999.

Sister Anne Veronica shared this touching story in the publication, "*Sisters Stories.*" Sister had gone to Casper, Wyoming, with two other sisters to conduct Vacation Bible School and take a parish census. As she approached one house there was a man asleep in the sun on a chaise lounge. She quietly went around him and knocked on the door. A woman answered the door and sister asked the usual question, "Are there any Catholics here or anyone baptized Catholic?" The woman said no, so she chatted for a few minutes and admired her flowers. The man was still sleeping, so she slipped by and went on to the next home. Later, when she started down the other side of the street, the man was awake and yelled across the street that no one was at home. He yelled again and again as she

knocked on several other doors. Finally, the gentlemen asked what she was doing. Instead of yelling across the street, she crossed to explain that she was taking a census of Catholics in the area. The man became very distraught, telling her, "I am Catholic and my brother is a priest." He continued telling her the story of why he no longer attended Mass or celebrated the sacraments. Yet he sincerely longed for his two teenage sons to have what he had growing up, mainly reconciliation (Confession) and Communion. Sister Anne Veronica listened and asked if it would be ok to tell the parish priest his story and see what might be able to be done to validate the marriage so he could return to the sacraments. The man intently looked at sister and then said, "You know Sister, in the Bible it says that the Good Shepherd went looking for his lost sheep. No one ever came looking for me!" She smiled back saying, "Well, here I am."

Sister Anne Veronica was always saying "Here I am," especially after she made her Cursillo in 1972. She would often say, "It turned my life around, giving me a deeper and deeper faith." So did the time she spent with her sister, Mary Agnes, after her stroke. This is where Sister Anne Veronica was introduced to people who live with physical and mental challenges, a group she would love serving the rest of her life. She wrote of one Easter celebration with this special group in Ohio where she felt the love of Christ very intently and personally, not only from the celebration of the Eucharist, but from every one of the people in the room.

Sister Anne Veronica had planned her wake and funeral, and as a community we were joined by her nephew, Dr. James McNulty, and his two sons and their families, along with her niece, Linda McNulty, and her daughter and son for both the wake on Sunday February 12, 2017, and the funeral liturgy on Monday, February 13, 2017. Fr. Dale Bauman was the priest celebrant for the Eucharist.

Sr. Anne Veronica, you were a faithful servant and as one of the little mottos you had in your file, not only did your heart burn with the love of God until it burned out. It burned for all those with whom you lived and loved. May you now experience that love in new and glorious way in heaven.

Peace and Blessing,



Sr. Ginger Downey, OLVM



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LOVE  
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