

January 8, 2001

He was the Gift to the world
His followers are now gifts
for the world
It is Christmas
It is time to be gifts sent out.
Herbert Brokering

Dear Sisters:

While we were still celebrating the Christmas season in our liturgy, hymns, and prayer, Sister Marcella Poydock was called to Eternal Rest. Sister died peacefully January 2, 2001, 7:15 a.m. in the Holy Family Health Care Center. Sisters Florentine Lohr and Grace Marie Samblanet were with her at the time. Sisters Amelia Villanueva and Clare Marie Schnedecker came into the room very soon and the four prayed for the happy repose of this soul, a gift for the world.

Sister Marcella was born October 16, 1918, in Brockway, Pennsylvania to Michael and Clara (Biss) Poydock. Both parents are deceased. Survivors are: a brother, Robert Poydock, Ferry, New York; three sisters, Mary Elizabeth Tracy, Concord, California, and Barbara Ann Fordham, and Theresa Cooney, both of Salamanca, New York. None of the family was able to come to the funeral.

Sister Marcella Poydock entered Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters congregation December 27, 1943, and made first vows August 5, 1946.

The twelve-verse poem by Herbert Brokering that Sister had evidently printed by hand and placed in her file must have been special to her. It could have been an incentive as she was ministering in Texas, California, Michigan, Missouri, Vermont, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Wyoming, Colorado, and Arizona in the areas of religious education, social service, and pastoral ministry.

The body was brought to the chapel Wednesday afternoon, January 3 and we prayed the rosary. The wake in the evening opened with My Soul in Stillness Waits, There was a response, Within Our Hearts Be Born, and it closed with Tu Eres La Victoria.

Sisters responded to the invitation to share a memory, a tribute, or a story of Sister Marcella. It was reminiscent of the gracious, loving companion who had lived among us.

Father Thomas Fahey presided at the Liturgy of Christian Burial Thursday morning. The prelude was Gentle Mary. The Gathering Hymn, You Are Mine, was followed by Ave Maria, with Sister Dorothy Anne Lengerich at the organ and Sister Mary Magdalen Heim with violin.

Father's homily took us on the road to Emmaus with the two disciples. Jesus joins them and hears their concerns "Why, why did He leave us." Their eyes were opened as Our Lord spoke with them explaining.

Father continues with "What must the first moment be like as eyes are open to see Jesus, saints and everyone. One must have to say, "It was worth it all." No doubt Sister Marcella was thinking like this during her sufferings. Now it is clear to her. God wants more from us and fly into His arms.

Service for the cemetery was offered in the chapel gathering space due to wintery weather conditions. Some Sisters walked to the cemetery.

As Father has said, surely Sister has flown into the arms of Jesus, her Beloved. Sister Marcella, may we have your prayers to faithfully follow you.

Sincerely yours,

Sister Marjorie
Sr. Marjorie Curran

Walk
in
Newness
of Life

