July 20, 1999



Dear Sisters and Associates:

Our Mother shines in glory, Victorious on her throne And millions yield allegiance, Her help, protection own We kneel before her altar and Pray that she may be A mother to her children, Our Lady of Victory.

It is not possible to visualize Sister Mary Isabel's awe as the soul left her body for life eternal. Surely she must have seen Our Mother shining in glory welcoming Her child. Being outside her limitations, weaknesses and sufferings Sister must have been greeting Our Lady with "mucho gusto."

Sister Mary Isabel Quinn died July 7, 1999 about 7:50 p.m. in Holy Family third floor. She was born July 5, 1907 to Thomas and Frances Isabella (Slavin) Quinn in Texarkana, Arkansas and she was baptized at St. Edward's Church, July 14, in the same city. Her parents are deceased. Five sisters and 2 brothers also preceded her in death. Two sisters, Margaret Quinn Culling, Texarkana and Therese Black, Pasadena, Texas survive.

Sister Mary Isabel entered Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters congregation February 4, 1933 and made first vows March 25, 1936. She taught and coordinated religious education programs in Texas, Arizona, Nevada, Indiana and California. She spent fourteen summers with Sisters Cordelia Marie Bahl and Therese Egidy ministering among the migrant workers in the area of Torrington, Wyoming. She also taught Spanish and English classes to novices and postulants at Victory Noll for several years.

Evidently Sister Mary Isabel did not plan to retire when she came to Victory Noll in 1989. She earned a Tutor Certificate from Three Rivers Literacy Alliance of Fort Wayne dated May 9, 1990.

Sister Mary Isabel had been in failing health for some years. She had some weak spells during the past few months. Sisters sat with her and prayed with her around-the-clock for about a week before she died. She seemed to realize we were there for her and in spite of her weakness was able at times to smile.

The wake for Sister was Friday evening, July 9, 1999, None of the family was able to attend. Sisters were present for the retreat and the volume of many voices was noticeable. It was a beautiful service. Sisters enjoyed telling memories and giving tributes of their lives and ministries as companions on the journey with Sister Mary Isabel in the missions.

Father Fahey presided at the Liturgy of Christian Burial Saturday morning. From his homily it was clear he and Sister had visited of the land of Ireland. He disclosed a wish of hers. She hoped to pass over the Emerald Isle on her way to the Father's Home. May it have been granted to her.

The recessional to the cemetery began with "Jerusalem, My Destiny." Many Sisters were able to join in the walk. It was a cool pleasant morning. "We Have a Holy Mother" rang out as the service closed.

Sister Mary Isabel: You were loved. We pray Our Heavenly Father to bestow His generous reward upon you for His Gifts you have so happily shared with us. God bless and thank you.

In Jesus and Mary,

Sr. Marjorie Curran