

IN MEMORIAM



Sr. Marie Evelyn Moorman

(Sister Mary Theodora)

BORN: July 1924

ENTERED CONGREGATION: July 23, 1941

DIED: March 1, 2008

WELCOME to the celebration of Sister Marie Evelyn's entrance into eternal life. We also welcome and feel privileged to have with us today her brother Ray, his wife, Gloria, nieces and nephews, as well as other relatives and friends.

83 years ago, Cyril and Esther (Monnin) Moorman welcomed their second daughter, Marie Evelyn, into their home in Russia, Ohio. One more sister and three brothers completed the Moorman family.

Marie Evelyn was welcomed into God's family at St. Remy Parish in Russia, and attended both grade and high school there.

From the Moorman family's residence Marie Evelyn could easily observe the Precious Blood sisters come and go from their convent next to the church. Although Marie Evelyn interacted with the sisters at school, she recalled that it was in watching them from her home that she remembers saying to herself, "I'd like to be a sister and live in a house near the church."

Some years later, at the age of 17, Marie Evelyn joined the Sisters of the Precious Blood. Already members of the community were her three cousins: Yvonne, Carmen and Mary Lou Voisard. Another cousin, Evelyn Monnin, would join the community the following year.

During the time of her novitiate Marie

Evelyn made it known that she had no desire to be a teacher. Respecting her wishes, the community prepared her professionally for service in dietary and homemaking. In this capacity Marie Evelyn generously served in seminaries and episcopal residences, high schools and colleges, nursing homes and retirement centers, convents, and as a companion in private homes in the states of Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. In her free time Marie Evelyn enjoyed knitting, crocheting, traveling and listening to music.

Marie Evelyn was known for always being neat, prim and proper. One of her friends recounts that whether she was cooking at the stove or cleaning a room she never seemed to get dirty. Her secret was to change aprons as soon as a spot appeared.

In addition to being an excellent cook, Marie Evelyn was a popular baker. Each Saturday was baking time; rolls, coffee cakes and bread came fresh from the oven.

Marie Evelyn loved most her ministry at the archbishops' residences and was at ease in the presence of visiting cardinals and hierarchy from foreign countries. She had a special regard for Archbishops [Karl] Alter and [Edward] McCarthy in Cincinnati, and [Bishop, later Cardinal, John] Carberry, for whom she worked in Lafayette, Ind., and Columbus, Ohio. Her writings reveal that these clergymen held her in high esteem as well. Apparently Sister Marie Evelyn's meals were appealing to

the eye as well as delicious, for Bishop Carberry told her, "Cooking was next to art."

During the last 14 years of her ministry Marie Evelyn drove the sisters at Salem Heights to appointments, family funerals and visits to friends and relatives. Many sisters knew when they saw the red Stratus that Marie Evelyn was coming or going with someone.

Marie Evelyn traveled extensively, some in connection with her home-care ministry, and profited both spiritually and educationally from it. She visited the Holy Land, Rome, Fatima and Lourdes, Mexico and Canada, as well as many places in the United States.

Marie Evelyn's goal was to continuously grow to become more Christ-like. Her favorite bit of advice to those she served was, "Jesus loves you; He understands."

In writing for her celebration of 60 years as a Sister of the Precious Blood she says, "I have found peace of heart and mind in the community. I have always experienced the support and love of the superiors and sisters. The community is always a loving home."

Marie Evelyn, we are sure you are experiencing an even more understanding and loving home. Rest in God's presence and experience perfect love for all eternity!

—Sister Madonna Ratermann