

Queen of Peace Oratory
5360 Columbine Rd.
Denver, Colorado 80221
June 2, 1982

Dear Sisters, Relatives and Friends of Sister Esther,

Sister Esther Jaster, for fifty-five years a member of the Marycrest Sisters of St. Francis, passed to her reward on June 2, 1982, at the age of seventy-six years.

Sister Esther made her profession of vows on September 2, 1929, and since then has served ably in many capacities in the Marycrest Province of her Sisters. She did secretarial work at St. Joseph Hospital in Alliance, Nebraska, and then taught at St. Elizabeth School in Denver. In 1945 she became director of novices at Marycrest Novitiate, where for 22 years she was the key figure in the formation program for the young women coming into religious life. Then came two years of both physical and spiritual ministry at St. Joseph Hospital, Minot, North Dakota.

On March 1, 1969, Sister Esther became a core member of Queen of Peace Oratory in Denver. For nine of these latest thirteen years she was local minister of this prayer community. Always here, as in every phase of her life, Sister was the very embodiment of ministry.

In January, 1982, Sister Esther's health failed visibly. Her condition required surgery, which, though helpful, did not ensure remission of the cancer that was attacking her vital organs. Sister returned to the House of Prayer and continued there until shortly before Holy Week when she was again hospitalized. After a brief stay in the hospital, Sister Esther returned -- this time to the motherhouse, to be cared for by her Sisters.

On Pentecost Sunday, as the Sisters were celebrating five jubilees in the motherhouse chapel, Sister came to Mass in her wheel chair. On Monday, May 31, she was present also for the Final Profession Mass of Sister Karen McCrory. That evening, the last of the three-day Provincial Assembly, Sister had to return to the hospital for intensive care. Two days later she commended her beautiful soul to her God.

The funeral and resurrection liturgy was held in St. Elizabeth Church in Denver, where Sister Esther (Sylvia Jaster) had been baptized, where she received her First Holy Communion and was confirmed. From here, too, she entered religion. Her parents were buried from this church, and here her sister, Dolores Cordes, was married.

Sister's remains await the resurrection in the Sisters' plot in Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Denver.

In grateful love,

The Sisters of St. Francis at
Queen of Peace Oratory