

Marian Residence
1104 Toluca
Alliance, NE 69301

April 29, 2003

Dear Sisters, Family Members and Friends of Sister Margaret Mary;

On June 9, 1914, Margaret Mary Schneider was born to Jacob and Margaret (Gerien) Schneider at Orrin, North Dakota. She was the second daughter in a family of thirteen children. In the fall of 1935 Margaret Mary went to Stella Niagara, NY to become a Sister of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity. She was invested as a novice on August 16, 1936 and received the name Sister Ludgardis. Sister Ludgardis made her first vows August 17, 1937 and went to her first assignment in Columbus, Ohio. During the next years, Sister ministered in Colorado, St. Louis, MO, Alliance, O'Neill and Rushville, NE and both St. Francis and Holy Rosary Mission in SD, until she came to Marian Residence in 1979. In 1998 she retired at Marian. In the 60's. Sister Ludgardis returned to her baptismal name and was Sister Margaret Mary.

Most of Sister Margaret Mary's ministry as a Religious was spent in the kitchen, where she became an outstanding cook, shopper, and baker. Most Sisters have celebrated a jubilee with greater pride because of the tiered cake she baked and decorated for the occasion. Sister worked several years doing Catechetical ministry at Holy Rosary Mission. During the post Vatican II years, her talent as a seamstress came to light as she sewed and made alterations in clothing for many Sisters.

Survivors include three sisters: Sister Margaret, OSF, of O'Neill, NE; Mrs. Agnes Hamon, (husband Mike), of Devils Lake, ND; and Magdalene Schneider, of Rugby, ND; three brothers; Anthony Schneider (wife Irene), of Devils Lake, ND; Rachel Schneider, (wife Nettie), of Rugby, ND; and Francis Schneider, (wife Gloria), of Minnewaukin, ND; three sisters-in-law, Mary Schneider, of Rugby, Gloria Schneider, of Esmond, ND; and Lydia Schneider, of Devils Lake.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her older sister, Katherine, (husband Otto), Krenzel, three brothers, Joseph, Jacob, and Rudy, Martha and John, both who died in infancy, and another brother-in-law, Leo Schneider. Others left to cherish her memory are many nieces, nephews, grand nieces, grand nephews, and cousins.

July 5, 2000, it was found necessary for her protection. to place Sister in a secure unit in a local nursing home. Her condition slowly deteriorated and she had frequent falls. In late March, 2003, she fell and cut her head. Following that, she slowly lost her appetite and then late in April was unable to take food, medication, or fluids. Hospice nurses were called in on April 11 and liquid medications were placed under her tongue, which provided her with peaceful rest. Her sister, Sister Margaret, came from O'Neill on April 16th. During her final days, the priests visited her often and the Sisters frequently joined Sr. Margaret in prayer at her bedside.

Five relatives came from North Dakota for the Wake and Funeral; two sisters, one brother, a sister-in-law, and a brother-in-law. At the wake many interesting stories were told. Many graduates from St. Agnes Academy had trouble remembering if her name was Margaret Mary or Mary Margaret. Father Bryan said he just called her M&M.

The wake was Friday evening, April 25, 2003, at 7:00 P.M. at Marian Hall. The Mass of Resurrection was at 10:00 A.M. Saturday. April 26, 2003 in Marian Hall, with Father Bryan Ernest and Father Vince Parsons as celebrants. Sister was buried in Calvary Cemetery.

The Sisters at Marian Residence,

She died April 25, 2003