

MARIAN RESIDENCE
1104 Toluca Avenue
ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA 69301
(308) 762-4408

November 29, 2003

Dear Family Members and Friends of Sister Liguori,

The Hindu poet Rabindranath Tagore wrote: "Death is not the extinguishing of the light, but the blowing out of the candle because the dawn has come." The dawn did come for Sister M. Liguori O'Reilly at 12:55 a.m. on Tuesday November 25, 2003.

She was born May 17, 1912, the oldest of five children, to Thomas O'Reilly and Agnes Gill O'Reilly in Cascade, Wisconsin. She was baptized Liguori Mary. Her parents and all of her siblings preceded her in death. Many devoted nieces and nephews mourn her death.

Liguori Mary and her sister Madeline worked in Denver where Liguori Mary met the Marycrest Franciscans. She entered the novitiate November 15, 1947, received the name Sister Mary Liguori, and made her first profession as a Sister of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity at Marycrest, Denver, Colorado on August 17, 1950.

Sister obtained a B.A. in Education and had further studies and certificates in education, mathematics and reading. In addition to teaching in Colorado, Nebraska and the St. Francis Mission in South Dakota, Sister Liguori taught at the International School in Rome, Italy for three years. After retiring from teaching, Sister worked in Pastoral Ministry at St. Patrick's Parish in O'Neill, Nebraska. Most of us will always remember her by her beautiful smile and readiness to give everyone a blessing, especially to new babies and children.

Sister Liguori came to Marian Residence in 1991 to retire. During her first years she enjoyed card games and was a shrewd player. But when she would win and put her cards down she would smile and say "I'm sorry." In November of 1997, Sister suffered a broken femur and after that was confined to a wheel chair.

During these last months her health gradually declined and for several days the Angel of Death hovered closely. The Sisters spent hours at her bedside praying many rosaries and her favorite prayers. Members of the staff came in to relieve at meal time and just to be with Sister for a while. One CNA brought her three year old son with her. He played for awhile, came up to the bed to ask his mother, "Is she sick?" His mother said "yes and she will die and go to heaven." He left for awhile, then returned, reached up to pat Sister Liguori's leg and said, "It will all be better when you get to heaven."

Her wake was Thanksgiving evening at 7:00 p.m. and the funeral Mass was at 9:30 a.m. at Marian Residence on November 28, 2003, followed by burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Blessings of Peace and All Good,

The Sisters at Marian Residence