



We commend to your charity the soul of our beloved

Sister Constance Marie Waltman

who departed this life on October 1, 2014

in the seventieth year of her religious life

Age: 91 years, 1 month, 18 days

Resurrection Liturgy: Saturday, October 4, 2014 at 4 p.m.

“Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your God!” [Matt 25:21]

Sister Constance Marie recently celebrated her 70th Jubilee as a Sister of Divine Providence. What a gift of fidelity to God and God’s people. She was open to and followed God’s call and invitation to ministry.

Constance Marie was the oldest of five siblings born to Esther Alice Geibel and Silverius Waltman in Chicora PA.

Sister Constance Marie (Bernard Joseph) entered the Community from Mater Dolorosa Parish in Chicora. Connie, as she was often called in Community, was educated to become an elementary school teacher. She began a long teaching career in 1947 and spent most with children in the second grade. She was dedicated in preparing the children for the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist. Connie ministered in several parish schools in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, three years at St. Brendan in Detroit, and six at Sacred Heart Elementary in Kingston MA.

Sister Connie, in response to the needs of the time, ventured to New England with Sister Camille Ordner in 1950 and ministered there until 1956. The local bishop was looking for Sisters to minister in Plymouth MA, where Sacred Heart had its foundation. They taught CCD classes to children from five different parishes and they worked in the parish communities. You might say that Connie and Camille were among the earliest Pastoral Ministers! Daily they walked from house to house gathering census information to familiarize themselves with the people and their needs. They visited the sick, attended to the needs of the poor and ministered with the many Portuguese families. They gathered weekly with a group of women to pray, share faith and sew. They named their little faith community “Holy Stitchers.”

After completing 33 years as an educator, Connie began a new ministry. She moved to Providence Heights in 1979 and was willing and available to drive the Sisters to their appointments throughout the city. She was an excellent driver and very faithful to this ministry. Sisters shared that she was congenial, very accommodating with her schedule, and a woman with a peaceful spirit. Connie was always ready to help wherever needed.

Sister Connie had other interests as well. She had a gift of music. She was an oboist in the Sisters Orchestra, formerly called the Pittsburgh Diocesan Teachers Symphony. While at Providence Heights, she enjoyed singing, was faithful to choir practice and she played in the bell choir. Additionally, Connie enjoyed taking “movies” and pictures for feast days, jubilees and other community celebrations, capturing significant moments of our Providence history. She always enjoyed a good and relaxing time at the “Waltman Cottage” with family and community friends.

While Connie officially retired from active ministry in 2005, she was faithful to her Provident God and remembered the Community and all of its intentions in her daily prayers. Connie entered her eternal reward quietly and peacefully, just as she lived.

*“Evermore I’ll sing your praise, evermore through endless days, God of all seasons, right and reason,
Lord of love and endless grace.” [Lyrics by Liam Lawton]*

Feast day: May 1
SDMG