

REFLECTION ON THE LIFE OF SISTER EDNA MARIE MEYERS

June 22, 1925—November 1, 2020



On October 26, while enjoying a wonderful retreat I received a call from Sister Mary Lou informing me that Sister Edna Marie was very ill and nearing death. She had requested that I give the reflection at her funeral Mass. Surprised and astonished, I selfishly prayed that the dear Lord would permit her to remain with us until after my retreat on October 29. Behold! On November 1, All Saints Day, this beautiful message arrived from Sister Susan:

"With her legs unbound and her wheel chair abandoned, Sister Edna Marie Meyers led the saints marching into heaven very early this morning. May she enjoy the freedom and full joy of eternal life."

I thought, "How fitting a day for my dear friend Edna to enter heaven joining Mother Seton and her great band of Sisters of Charity. What a heavenly gift!"

Praying and thinking about all of these happenings, I'm reminded of a lecture given by a noted theologian whom I admire. I thought how fittingly Sister Edna Marie's life portrays the essence of his words. He noted that after thirty years of his studies, preaching, teaching, and searching for God, he found the answer in a catechism lesson taught by his first grade teacher.

The Question: Why did God make you?

The Answer: to know Him, to love Him, and to serve Him in this life and to be happy with Him forever in heaven.

Sister Edna Marie answered this question perfectly.

Did she know Him? Yes, as she studied about Him. She meditated on His goodness and cherished every opportunity given her to learn more.

Did she love Him? Yes, as she gave Him her life as a Sister of Charity, she communed with Him daily, and cherished Him at every Mass and Holy Communion she was privileged to attend.

Did she serve Him? Yes, as she faithfully taught and loved God's special children at De Paul for fifty years, spending many summers instructing CCD classes at New Baltimore, helping them to know God, and served with special love and devotion her brother Don and his wife and family. Finally, she did most willingly all that her dear Master asked of her.

Yes, now Edna. You are happy with Him forever in heaven.

Pray for us, Edna, that we your Sisters and all those you knew on earth will enjoy that same reward. Let us pray together for Edna and all the faithful departed.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Funeral Liturgy Reflection

Sister Philomena Mannion

November 3, 2020