

SR. RITA DI BIANCA - June 4, 1916 - May 1, 1982

Sr. Rita Di Bianca passed to her eternal reward on May 1, 1982.

Sr. Rita entered our community on February 6, 1932 in Staten Island and made her first profession on September 8, 1933. She had become acquainted with our Sisters in Providence Rest at an early age, when her mother did volunteer work at the Home.

Throughout her religious life, Sr. Rita served in the humble task of begging for alms in many of our New York and New Jersey houses: Mt. St. John Academy, Mt. St. John Convent, St. Lucy's, Our Lady of Loreto and St. Joseph's Villa.

It was at this last assignment that Sister became ill with a disease of the nervous system known as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig Disease). Consequently, on May 28, 1981, it was necessary to transfer Sr. Rita to our nursing home in the Bronx for constant care. Sister accepted her illness with much patience and resignation to God's will. During her suffering she never complained and she constantly expressed her appreciation to all those who ministered to her.

Sr. Rita is remembered by those with whom she lived as a prayerful, obedient Sister who loved the community and was always loyal to it. Her whole person was permeated by a gentleness of the Spirit. We pray that like her, we may grow each day closer to the Lord.

MAY SHE REST IN PEACE