



OBITUARY OF

SISTER MARY PETER QUILOP, OSB

November 27, 1928 – May 20, 2007

Sister Mary Peter, baptized Primitiva Quilop, was from up, up north in the Philippines. That explains perhaps that having earned her bachelor's degree in education from St. Theresa's College, she taught in St. Augustine's School, a school founded by the ICM Sisters, the pioneer missionaries of the Mt. Province and neighboring provinces together with the CICM Fathers.

Among her well-loved and loving pupils were her nieces and Esperanza Lucero, mother of one of our sisters, Sister Alexis Lucero Lamarroza, OSB. According to her nieces she was a strict teacher of physics and mathematics. But she must have been a good one, for she was well remembered and with great affection.

In the convent, some years after her profession, she was sent for graduate studies in education, making her eligible for administrative positions in school. It was chiefly as a Benedictine educator that she did her mission and service for many years to follow – from the 1960s to the end of that century. After spending a few years in Manila, during which she taught and did her graduate studies, she was missioned to Tabunok in Cebu, where she taught besides holding the responsibilities of a high school principal. We find her in the succeeding years traversing the islands – from Tabunok to Ormoc in Leyte; then to Guinobatan in Bicol. Once more, to Cebu in Lapu-Lapu, where she returned after quite a number of years to serve also as superior of the school community. She was then back to Luzon for service in Marikina, the Formation House, and Angeles in Pampanga. Off she went once more to the Visayas, this time to Bacolod where she also served as superior besides being directress, after which she returned to her beloved Lapu-Lapu. By then her health started to give way, and after doing lighter assignments in Marikina, she was assigned to St. Benedict's Home where she could spend her retirement years and be given the necessary health care and treatment.

Four years ago, Sr. Mary Peter, together with her profession group, Sr. Mary Placid Abejo, OSB, Sr. Consilio Napi, OSB and Sr. Mary Bellarmine Bernas, OSB quietly celebrated their Ruby Jubilee of Profession in the convent chapel of Tagaytay with Bishop Luis Antonio Tagle as Mass president.

Sister Mary Peter was a fine and quiet person – not only in speech but also in demeanor. Thus, it was quite "fitting" that she would just pass on to God very quietly, almost in sleep, on Ascension Day, May 20, 2007. She surely suffered because of her sickness, cirrhosis of the liver, but she accepted that that was her participation in her Lord's cross, and she was sure that she would also participate in the glory and happiness that He promised for all that would "follow Him." I can almost imagine Sister Mary Peter with her quiet smile, acknowledging that remark and saying, "How else!" It was thus that she glorified – and glorifies - Her divine Lord and Master in life and in death. Now we feel sure that in her great love, she looks down on us with her quiet smile, loving us all and waiting for us all when the time comes for God's final call.

M. Mary John Mananzan, OSB, Prioress

Manila Priory