



Sister Mary Emmanuel Hauck, SC

Entered eternal life on September 26, 2020

Good morning. First, I'd like to express my condolences to all of the Sisters of Charity over the death of Sister Emmanuel, and to any friends or family members here as well. I'd also like to express my condolences to the staff at the Villa and offer thanks for all the care and concern they showed for Sister Emmanuel over the years.

I had the pleasure of knowing Sister Emmanuel from my ministry at the Villa. And there were many memories I had of her. But I think of all of them, the one that sticks with me the most was her sense of gratitude. When I mentioned to some of my confreres about Sister Emmanuel's death, Fr. John mentioned, and then I remembered as well, that whenever she came to Confession, before beginning, but as soon as she sat down, she always took a few minutes to talk about how grateful she and the community were to the priests from St.

Mary's Abbey for coming to celebrate Mass and Confession at the Villa. She would continue on about this for, as I mentioned, a few minutes. We know of course, that everybody loves affirmation, at least once in a while, but she would say it before beginning every Confession.

One thing that will always stick out for me, was after I had celebrated Mass and she'd be in the congregation, which she was until maybe toward the end of last year, after saying, "Go in peace," or one of the other options, I would hear Sister Emmanuel say with her frail voice from her pew, "Thank you, Father." It was funny in a sense, because it always threw me a little off. But I remember that every time she would say that, I'd turn around and give her a little wave, which was my way of saying, "You're welcome."

Sister Emmanuel, frail as she was for so many years, had a very sweet way about her, and yet was also very witty. I had heard this from a couple of Sisters there, and I thought, "No, Sister Emmanuel?" But one time I had to bring it up to her and I said, "Sister Emmanuel, I hear you're quite the comedienne." She doubled over with a silent laugh and asked me where I had heard that. So I told her that it was the word around town, to which she laughed again. After I discovered that side of her, I'd always try to share a laugh with her if I could, especially when we would have some time to talk before she came to Confession.

Whenever you'd see Sister Emmanuel in the hallway she was always pleasant, but always seemed to be in a prayerful way. I always admired this about her. This prayerfulness points to our readings for today. In the prophet Isaiah, we hear that there will come a time when the people, or we, look to our God to save us. The faith of Sister Emmanuel has led her to rejoice in the God who saves her and with this, she rejoices in her journey toward our Lord.

Sister Emmanuel's faith was not only one of her most admired traits, but coupled with this was a deep sense of humility, at least from what I saw in her. Jesus, in the Gospel passage from St. Matthew, speaks of the veil of darkness being removed from them and spiritual insight is given them. Sister Emmanuel rests in the peace and loving arms of our Lord who now gives her the fullness of his life to her when she arrives at his side.

The prayer of Sister Emmanuel was nourished by her presence and devotion to the Eucharist. As we move into our Eucharistic liturgy in her presence, may we take that example of devotion and

let it be more strongly a part of our own lives. May she have eternal rest, O Lord, and, as the Byzantine liturgy says, may her memory be eternal.

Homily given at Sister Mary Emmanuel's funeral Mass by Rev. Anthony Sargent, OSB