

SISTER M. LOUISE BURGHOLTZER  
DATE OF DEATH: JULY 11, 1879  
DATE OF BIRTH: MAY 2, 1857

NUMBER

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On July 11, 1879, Sister M. Louise Burgholtzer died after a lingering illness at the Motherhouse in the 23rd year of her age and the 5th of her religious life. The disease was principally seated in the head and she suffered intensely; yet she was a model of patience and resignation during her long and painful illness. Both she and Sister Charles Bernert, whose successor she had been at St. John's School in Joliet, were long remembered by their grateful pupils. The rector of St. John's offered every Sunday in public, one Our Father for the repose of their souls.

For the benefit of beginners in religious life we shall mention that during the first week of her postulancy Sister Louise was continually harassed by temptations to return to the world. From the convent veranda she would daily watch the morning trains leaving Joliet and wonder how soon she would be among the passengers en route to her dear home in Portsmouth, Ohio. But she was of a docile disposition and readily took advice from her mistress, and joined devoutly in a novena of prayers offered by the community that she might be enlightened by God to learn His Holy Will as to her vocation. At the close of the novena, to her great consolation, she found herself entirely reconciled to remain. Afterwards in referring to the wonderful change the novena had affected in her she used to remark to her companions, "I was told to be entirely resigned during the days of the novena; I did not know what was meant by being resigned, but I wished to be obedient and said in my heart, 'I will be resigned'". Her last days on earth were an almost continual act of thanksgiving to the merciful God for her preservation in the religious state.