

Sister M. Ivana Flajnik, O.S.F.

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Born: December 5, 1907
Parents: George and Mary Flajnik
Entered from: St. Joseph Parish, Joliet, IL
Postulancy: September 7, 1925
Novitiate: August 12, 1926
Profession: August 12, 1928



Died: Thursday May 28, 1998 at Our Lady of Angels
Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL at
approximately 4:10 p.m.

Ministry:
1928 - 1929 SS Peter and Paul, Leonore, IL, Grades 1, 2, 3
1929 - 1930 SS Peter and Paul, Chicago, IL, Grades 1, 2
1930 - 1936 St. Joseph, Joliet, IL, Grade 7
1936 - 1938 St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, IL Freshman Religion, English, Latin,
Algebra, Ancient History, Shorthand, Typewriting
1938 - 1939 St. Procopius, Chicago, IL, Freshman Religion, English, Latin,
Algebra, Ancient History, Shorthand, Typewriting
1939 - 1941 Sacred Heart, Chicago, IL, Sophomore Religion, English,
Shorthand, Typewriting
1941 - 1942 St. Joseph, Joliet, IL, Grade 8
1942 - 1947 St. Boniface, Chicago, IL, Grade 8
1947 - 1949 St. Joseph, Joliet, IL, Grades 5, 6
1949 - 1953 Guardian Angel Home, Joliet, Grades 5, 6
1953 - 1954 St. Mary High, Columbus, OH, Freshman Home Room, Religion and
History
1954 - 1975 St. Procopius High, Chicago, IL, Junior Home Room, Religion,
Civics, U.S. & World History, Sociology, Clothing
1975 - 1992 Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL,
Congregation Offset Department - Assistant Director
1992 - 1998 Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL, Retired

Wake: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL, Sunday, May 31, 1998
2-7 p.m. with prayer service at 4:30 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial: Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL
Sunday, May 31, 1998 at 7:00 p.m.

Burial: Monday, June 1, 1998 leaving Our Lady of Angels at
9:00 a.m. to Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL, S8-L338-G8

Survived by: her sister, Sister M. Olga Flajnik, osf, of Joliet, IL and her brother
Joseph Flajnik of Joliet, IL

*For those who have been faithful, O Lord,
life is not ended, but merely changed.*

Sister Ivana Flajnik was born in Joliet on December 5, 1907 to George and Mary Flajnik. On December 15th, she was taken to St. Joseph Church in Joliet, where she was baptized Mary Anna. Even as a young child Mary appreciated the company and support of her two sisters Anna, (now Sister M. Olga) and Kathryn, and her brothers George, John, Michael, and Joseph. The children attended the grammar school at St. Joseph Parish. Their whole family was active in the life and events of the parish. Mary continued her education at Commercial School and at St. Francis Academy in Joliet.

When Mary was 17, she became a postulant with the Franciscan Sisters in Joliet, coming to St. Francis Convent on September 7, 1925. Father John Plevnik, then pastor of St. Joseph Parish, wrote to Mother Vincent recommending Mary: "...It is a pleasure for me to recommend Miss Mary Flajnik to you as a girl of good character and virtuous life..." Mary expressed her own desire to enter the convent because she felt "called to religious life." On the feast of St. Clare, August 12, 1926, Mary followed that call of Jesus as she was received into the novitiate and given the new name of Sister Mary Ivana.

Following first profession on August 12, 1928, Sister Ivana began a long ministry of teaching. For 47 years, Sister Ivana devoted her labors to the education of youth ranging from first grade through high school. The children she taught had special memories of her. It was obvious to them that Sister Ivana was a woman of prayer and of quiet determination.

In 1975, Sister Ivana came to Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home in Joliet, not to retire, but to help in the many printing projects produced for the congregation and others in the Offset Department, which was housed at OLA. Sister Ivana continued working as much as her health allowed until 1992. Although the records say she retired, often she was seen preparing for various bazaars and projects for the benefit of OLA.

Sister Ivana's prayerful and reflective life was not a new part of her later years, but because of a lighter work schedule, she was able to spend more time in prayer, reading and reflection. As the condition of cancer left Sister Ivana with less energy, she continued to pray and to be mindful of her family and the needs of the city and the world. Sister Olga, her sister, kept a faithful vigil of prayer and loving care at her bedside. During the novena in preparation for Pentecost, Sister Ivana heard again the call she had heard in her youth, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, to follow Jesus in life and in death. On Thursday afternoon, May 28, 1998, as the Church across the world was beginning Vespers in preparation for the Feast of Pentecost, recalling again the faithful who gathered in the upper room with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, to await the gift of the spirit, Sister Ivana answered the final call of God to live forever in the upper room of heaven's mansions.

Sister Ivana, we thank you for your service to the children of God through your ministry of teaching. May you now intercede for us, your family, your friends, your students, and Franciscan Sisters as you enjoy Jesus, Mary, and all the apostles and saints for ever in heaven. Amen. Alleluia

