

25. Sister Anselma Baumgart
June 20, 1887

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Sister Anselma Baumgart

Sister Anselma, formerly Mary Baumgart of Columbus, Ohio, died at the Motherhouse at Joliet on the 20th of June, in the sixty-third year of her age and the tenth of her religious life in the Franciscan order at Joliet, Illinois.

Having been one of the many members of the Society of the Holy Cross at St. Mary's, South Bend, Indiana, who in the beginning of the sixties, abandoned that Society, either to affiliate themselves to another religious society or order, or to return to the world, this Sister chose to go to her relatives in Columbus, Ohio, with whom she remained until the 1876, being then in the fifty-second year of her age. Soon after St. Mary's School in Columbus had been accepted by the Sisters at Joliet, she heard from them that Mother Alfred Moes, with whom she had formerly been acquainted at Saint Mary's Indiana, was presiding over the Franciscan Community at Joliet, Illinois. Longing to end her life as a religious, she soon applied for admission. Mother Alfred kindly received the applicant, notwithstanding her advanced age. She was the last postulant admitted by Mother Alfred during her term of office in the convent at Joliet.

It has not been ascertained how many years this Sister had been at St. Mary's Indiana. She proved herself a humble and useful religious and member of the Community at Joliet during the remaining ten years of her life; thus amply repaying her benefactors for satisfying her ardent desire to die invested with the religious habit. May it not be hoped that the community on its part will also receive a reward from Him who has said: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy".