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Sister Zita Behrendt

Sister Mary Zita, O.S.F. is dead. Her gentle, loving smile that awaited everyone has disappeared with her sudden death which occurred early Saturday morning, January 16, in the Convent home at Joliet, Illinois.

The funeral was held Monday, January 18, with the customary Solemn Requiem High Mass. Reverend Aloysius Fromm, O.F.M., was celebrant, Rev. Eligius Weir, O.F.M. deacon and Rev. Roman Hasenstab, O.F.M., subdeacon. Rev. George Faller, pastor of St. Michael's Church, Sigel, Illinois, and Rev. R. J. Wilhelmi, Assistant at Our Lady of Victory Parish, Chicago, were present in the sanctuary.

Sister Mary Zita entered the Community of the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate in 1894. During her religious life she taught in a number of schools of the Community, held the office of Superior for many years, and at the time of her death was performing the duties of Secretary General of the Congregation. Her fidelity to duty and to the principles of the religious life served as a model to her fellow Sisters.

Sister came from a family of religious, four having consecrated their lives to the service of God. Reverend Emmanuel Behrendt, O.F.M., who has been laboring as a Missionary in Chantung, China, for the past seven years. Sister M. Zita, Sister M. Humiliana, and Sister M. Lydia who died in 1919, all members of the Order of St. Francis.

Sister Zita is survived by her aged mother, Mrs. Mary Behrendt, two sisters, Sister M. Humiliana and Mrs. Joseph Massey, a brother Rev. Emmanuel Behrendt, O.F.M., and a sister-in-law, Mrs. Ada Behrendt.