

27. Sister Charitas Collet
March 10, 1889

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Sister Charitas Collet

Sister Charitas, formerly Barbara Collet of St. Michael's Parish, Chicago, a full sister of Sisters Felicitas and Veronica, died at the Motherhouse on March 10, 1889, in the thirty-first year of her age the twelfth of her religious life. She had taught at St. John's School in Joliet for about ten years and proved herself a dutiful and zealous worker in the vineyard of the Divine Master. He had blessed her humble efforts with success.

Sister Charitas was true to the name given her in religion. A Sister who knew her well said of her: "Sister Charitas was always ready to do any one a favor and she even anticipated occasions for such by offering her services". She was charitable towards all, and she had indeed a motherly heart for the little children, whom it was her happy lot to instruct. Her very appearance among her "Little Ones" made them happy and was a lesson for them in the practice of virtue, especially in kindness towards one another. She always had a pleasant smile and a kind word for each, and if she showed any preference it was for the child that was most forsaken.

Sister Charitas had great devotion to St. Joseph, the patron of the dying. During her illness she never went to sleep in the evening without recommending herself by a special prayer to this dear saint to obtain the grace of a happy death, and when she could no longer recite this prayer she asked her nurse to repeat it for her. A part of the last year of her life was spent in attending to the sick and infirm sisters and although she was in feeble health, she faithfully performed this work until she herself was confined to the infirmary. Her charity towards the sick was regarded even during her life time; in her last illness she had the happiness of being nursed by her own dear Sister Felicitas. She died peacefully in the Lord.