

MOTHER M. VINCENT HUNK
144. MARCH 13, 1926

DIED: MARCH 13, 1926 in her 68th year and
the 54th of her religious life

BORN: May 12, 1858 in Vinton, OH

PARENTS: John and Mary Haehne Hunk
Natural sister:
Margaret Hunk, Sister Xavier, died of
consumption, when she was 36 years old,
in the 21st year of religious life, on
October 1, 1890.

POSTULANCY: November 5, 1872 from Neoga, IL

NOVITIATE: March 6, 1873

FIRST VOWS: August 4, 1878

FINAL VOWS: August 5, 1881

MISSIONS:

1873-74 St. Bonaventure, Chicago, IL

1874-75 St. Mary, Rock Island, IL

1875-83 St. Mary, Columbus, OH

1883-84 St. Lawrence, New Hamburg, MO

1884-99 St. Mary Institute, Bayfield, WI

1899-11 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL Local Superior

1911-26 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL General Superior



MOTHER MARY VINCENT HUNK, O. S. F.



IN LOVING MEMORY
OF

Mother M. Vincent Hunk

Superior General of the Sisters of
St. Francis of Mary Immaculate
who departed this life at Joliet, Illinois,

Saturday, March 13, 1926
in the 68th year of her age and in
the 54th of her religious life.

PRAYER

We beseech Thee, O Lord, that Thou
vouchsafe to grant to the soul of Thy
servant Vincent, companionship with
Thy saints and elect, and pour upon her
the perennial dew of Thy mercy. Amen.

Sweet Heart of Jesus, be my love.
Sweet Heart of Mary, be my salvation.

Each 300 days ind.

JESUS! MARY! JOSEPH!

Ind. 7 years and 7 quarantines.

In Memoriam

REVEREND MOTHER M. VINCENT, O. S. F.

March 13, 1926



FOR nearly two weeks the Angel of Death hovered about the Convent before it claimed as its own the soul of Mother M. Vincent. The entire community was aware of the Angel's presence, and while they knew the inevitable parting was but a matter of time, yet when the Convent bell tolled its sad message, it seemed almost impossible that their beloved Mother was no more.

The life of Mother Vincent was one "full of years and deeds." She received the Franciscan habit in 1873, and for fifty-three years labored with indefatigable zeal for God and soul. For fourteen years she was charged with the superintendence of the Industrial School for Indian Girls at Bayfield, Wisconsin, after which she was appointed local superior of the Motherhouse at Joliet. In 1911 she was elected Superior General of the Congregation, which office she held until her death. During her administration the academic wing on Taylor Street was added to the Convent, the Academy on Wilcox and Taylor Streets completed, and the erection of the new Guardian Angel Home begun.

Mother M. Vincent needs no eulogy. Almost pitiful would be the attempt to eulogize her whose life has so powerfully pronounced its own eulogy. The most fitting tribute to one who has given to God for more than fifty years a service the most devoted, unselfish and untiring, who ever sought God's greater honor and glory, the spiritual and material good of her spiritual daughters, and the welfare of God's chosen flock—His little ones, is silence, the silence of awe and admiration. In silence we admire her unassuming simplicity, her profound humility, her spirit of faith and prayer, and her great charity. With the poet we wonder

*"If love's flame burns so pure and bright, here, where our air is
dark and dense,
And nothing in this world of night lives with a living so intense;
When it shall reach its home at length—how bright its light!
how strong its strength!"*

May God grant eternal rest to her soul.

St. Francis Convent,
Joliet, March 30, 1926

Dear Sisters:

Our dear Mother Vincent has gone to her eternal Home. Fifty-three years of faithful service in the cause of her Spouse came to a peaceful close in the month of St. Joseph. With a last effort and determination she had entered upon the retreat, but her remnant of strength failed on the second day, when she succumbed to a serious development of pleurisy.

"The Master is calling" she said a few days later; and even though being in the hearing of the summons to give an account of the great responsibility inseparable from her position, she could answer "I am ready."

Into the closing scenes of her pious and useful life were woven thoughts of her daughters in Christ, and from her death-bed she sent them this last message.

"I wish to thank the Sisters for all kindness and confidence they have ever shown me."

"I ask all to pardon my shortcomings and forgive me if ever I have caused them pain."

"I recommend the Sisters to foster a great devotion to the Sacred Heart. May they pray much, especially for the grace of perseverance."

"Heaven is worth everything. We cannot suffer too much nor labor too hard for this beautiful home, where I hope to meet all again."

Prayers and Holy Masses were generously offered for the repose of her soul, sympathy was general, and the funeral was one of the largest ever seen in Joliet.

The death of Mother Vincent makes necessary the election of a Superior General. This election will take place in the month of July. Accordingly prayers are to be said to invoke God's blessing on the election. The Sisters are hereby informed to begin these prayers on the fourth day of April and continue them for three months. They are given on page 28 in the Book of Customs.

There will be no summer school at the Motherhouse this vacation.

All Sisters of perpetual vows may attend the Eucharistic Congress. Specific instructions pertaining to this attendance can be given only after we have the number of Sisters who wish

Unusual Tribute Paid To A Most Gifted Religious At Last Rites In Joliet Convent

(Special to the New World)

Joliet, March 20.—After a twelve day illness of pleurisy Mother M. Vincent Hunk, Superior General of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate, departed this life on Saturday, March 13.

Mother Vincent, daughter of John Hunk and Mary Haney, was born at Vinton, Ohio, May 12, 1858. After the Civil War the family went to Illinois over the great Western Trail, and settled at Neoga. Here she made acquaintance with the Sisters, then teaching at Effingham. In 1872, she sought admission into the Sisterhood at Joliet and after probation she was vested in the Franciscan habit in March, 1873, which she wore during fifty-three years. For some years she taught in the schools in Illinois and Ohio, and was then charged with the superintendence of the Industrial School for Indian girls at Bayfield, Wis. Here she labored for fourteen years, after which she was appointed local Superior of the Motherhouse at Joliet, and in 1911 elected Superior General of the Congregation, which office she held until her pious death.

During her administration the original building of the Convent was enlarged by the academy addition on Taylor street, and when these quarters became insufficient, the present academy on Wilcox and Taylor streets became a reality. She did not live to see the completion of the new Guardian Angel Home which His Eminence, Cardinal Mundelein, had commissioned the Sisters to erect as a diocesan institution for the orphans of Will and Grundy counties.

On Sunday afternoon and also on Monday and Tuesday Sisters from the various schools and institutions conducted by the order came to pay their last respects to their beloved superior. A steady stream of sympathizers viewed the remains as, robed in the somber garb of the order they rested in the coffin. Many presented Mass offerings and said prayers for the departed soul.

The assembled clergy to the number of fifty, filed down the center aisle to the chapel entrance, on Tuesday morning, March 16, and while chanting the "Miserere" escorted the corpse to the steps of the sanctuary for the funeral services. The Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated in presence of Rt. Rev. Bishop E. F. Hoban, D.D., by Very Rev. Don. Evers, O.F.M., assisted by Rev. Gracian Gehrig as deacon and Rev. Paul Eberle, O.F.M., as sub-deacon, Rev. Leo Kalmer, O.F.M., acting as Master of Ceremonies. The singing was rendered by the well-trained Sisters' choir.

Rev. F. M. Scanlan, St. Raymond's parish, in his sermon emphasized as the characteristic of Mother Vincent her unassuming simplicity and her readiness to fit things to the convenience of others whenever she could possibly do so.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop E. F. Hoban gave the final absolution. He was assisted by Father Scanlan and

Father Kennedy of St. Patrick's. The presence of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Fr. A. Rempe, V.G., and of the Very Rev. Martin Strub, Provincial of the Franciscans of the Sacred Heart Province, St. Louis, Mo., were expression of the great respect borne the deceased Superior General. There were also present representatives of the Franciscan Sisters of Rochester, Minn. of the Providence High School and St. Joseph's Hospital Sisters, of the Dominicans, Benedictines, and Franciscans (Croatian) of the Ven. Brothers of the Christian Schools.

The Convent Chapel was crowded to capacity with Sisters and friends.

The committee, under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus, obtained from our ever generous and worthy citizens sufficient autos to convey the crowd to the cemetery in a most orderly way due to the arrangement of Mr. Wade Brady. The Cortage was an unusually large one.

The body was laid to rest in St. John's cemetery; his lordship, Bishop Hoban, pronounced the last absolution.

Two brothers, John of Neoga and William of Cleveland, two nephews, James Hunk of Joliet, and J. W. Hunk of Trowbridge, Ill., and their families were present at the death and burial of their venerated sister and aunt. These, as also the entire community of over five hundred Sisters and a host of friends mourn the loss of Reverend Mother Vincent.