

SISTER M. MEDARD LOCHNER

453. MARCH 16, 1969

Sister M. Medard, formerly Gertrude Lochner, was found dead on Sunday, March 16, 1969, at St. Pius X Convent, Lombard, IL, where she was stationed. The approximate time of death was 4:45 a.m. CST. The cause of death was ventricular fibrillation, left ventricular hypertrophy with rheumatic heart disease. Sister Medard was in her 58th year and the 42nd of her religious life. Funeral services were held at Our Lady of Angels Chapel on Wednesday, March 19, at 10 a.m., with burial in Resurrection Cemetery, Romeoville, IL.

Gertrude was born on March 21, 1911, to Frank and Margaret Burnett Lochner, in Morton Grove, IL. When Gertrude came to the postulancy at the age of 15, on September 21, 1926, both of her parents had died. She had been residing with her uncle in Arpin, Wisconsin. The priest from St. James Mission, Vesper, Wisconsin, recommended her. She became Sister M. Medard on August 12, 1927, pronounced her First Vows on August 12, 1929 and her Final Vows on August 12, 1932. She served:

1929-30	St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, IL	Grade 3
1930-31	St. Francis Xavier, Chicago, IL	Grade 2
1931-41	St. Peter, Mansfield, OH	Grade 2
1941-47	St. Boniface, Chicago, IL	Grade 2
1947-49	St. Peter, Mansfield, OH	Grade 3
1949-52	St. John the Baptist, Joliet, IL	Grades 1,3,4
1952-53	Most Pure Heart of Mary, Shelby, OH	Grades 3,4
1953-56	St. Peter, Mansfield, OH	Grades 2,3
1956-57	Corpus Christi, Columbus, OH	Grade 2
1957-59	Guardian Angel Home, Joliet, IL	Prefect Jr. Boys
1959-60	Holy Family, Joliet, IL	Grade 2
1960-63	St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, IL	Grades 3,4,5
1963-64	St. Mary, Des Plaines, IL	Grade 4
1964-69	St. Pius X, Lombard, IL	Grades 3,4

From December 18, 1958 until January 17, 1959, Sister Medard was in St. Joseph Hospital, Joliet, IL, for treatment of a serious heart condition. In 1961, she began teaching only half-day sessions. In September, 1964, she underwent heart surgery and spent some time at Our Lady of Angels. Sister Regina Marie, the local superior, reported that Sister Medard had not been sick--that the Friday before she was saying how much better she felt and that she hadn't felt so good for a couple of years. She slept most of the day Saturday and on Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. Sister Vera found her dead in bed. The priest and doctor were called. The doctor said she had been dead approximately six hours; he said there was no sign of a struggle of any kind; that she had just slept away.