Sister Edward Pavlik

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Sister M. Edward Pavlik died at St. Anthony's Hospital, Chicago, a few minutes before three o'clock on Monday afternoon, March 22, 1937. Sister M. Aloysia and Sister M. Clotilde were with her when she died. They had been sent in on Sunday afternoon by the Superior General when the word of Sister Edward's operation and critical condition reached her. About one o'clock on Monday afternoon Sister Aloysia telephoned to Mother Thomasine that Sister Edward was dying. With Sister Edith as companion Mother left Joliet for Chicago at once. When they reached the hospital Sister Edward was dead.

Sister Edward had been taken to St. Anthony's hospital for the first time on February 21 to be treated for an acute mastoid infection. She was dismissed from the hospital on February 27. She taught school on two days of the following week, but on March 5 she was taken back to the hospital, and this time her condition was worse than the first time. Instead of improving under treatments, the infection became worse. As a very last resort the doctor said an operation held out the only hope. He had postponed the operation because it was so doubtful what the outcome would be. After consulting another specialist, both doctors agreed upon the operation as the only possible, though very uncertain, means of saving her life. The operation was performed on Sunday afternoon.

The death certificate gives as the cause of her death extra-dural abscess with chronic mastoidites of twenty years duration as a contributory cause. It was learned that Sister had this trouble ever since she was a child of seven years. At the time of her death Sister Edward was in the twenty-seventh year of her age and the fifth of her religious life. She had not made Perpetual Profession, but belonged to the class which was to make Perpetual Profession during the summer.

Reverend Mother M. Thomasine arranged with Father Heimsath for the funeral services to be held from St. Pascal's Church. Sister Edward had been stationed at St. Pascal's school since she left the novitiate in 1934. A Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated at ten o'clock on March 24, Wednesday of Holy Week. The Rev. George Heimsath, the pastor, was celebrant of the Mass and preached the sermon. His two assistants, the Rev. Francis J. Rausch and the Rev. George Knippen were deacon and subdeacon. The Rev. Lester Kiley of Our Lady of Victory Church, ordinary confessor to the Sisters was present in the sanctuary. Reverend Mother arranged with the Superiors of the Chicago

houses to have two Sisters from each house present for the Mass, if at all possible. Every house was represented in spite of the extra work of Holy Week and the very inclement weather. These Sisters attended the Mass only. The remains were brought to Joliet for burial in Saint John's Cemetery. The parishioners of St. Pascal's were most generous in offering their cars for the funeral. All the way from the church to the cemetery in Joliet it was raining and sleeting making driving very difficult and dangerous.

The Rev. George Heimsath and the Rev. George Knippen accompanied the remains to Jolie t. Father Heimsath recited the prayers at the grave.