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Sister Raineldis Garcar

On the same day that Sister Charitas was buried, Sister Mary Raineldis Garcar who had been critically ill during the past days, died at Mercy Hospital, Johnstown, Pennsylvania, at 11:10 PM, May 17, 1938. At the time of her death Sister Raineldis was in the thirty-fifth year of her age and the eighteenth of her religious life.

Sister Raineldis had been operated for appendicitis in November. After the Christmas holidays she resumed teaching. On March 27th Sister Raineldis became ill and was taken to Mercy Hospital on March 29th. She remained there until her death about six weeks later. After the burial of Sister Charitas the Superior General was preparing to leave for Johnstown to see Sister Rainildis, but the word of her death came before she had left Joliet. Reverend Mother Thomasine accompanied by Sister Mercedes left Joliet early the next morning to attend Sister Raineldis' funeral.

The Solemn Mass of Requiem was celebrated by the pastor, Rev. John Martvon, on Friday morning at nine o'clock (May 20). Rev. Anthony Choby, assistant pastor of St. Stephen's, was deacon of the Mass, and Rev. Albert Gartland, assistant of St. John Gaulbert Church, Johnstown, was the subdeacon. The master of ceremonies was Rev. Michael Zamba, pastor of Annunciation, Portage. Preceding the Mass the Office of the Dead was recited by the clergy. Father Martvon delivered a sermon. Ten other priests were in the sanctuary, among them the Reverend Francis McNelis, the Diocesan Superintendent of Schools, from Altoona.

Interment followed in St. Stephen's Cemetery, Johnstown. All the priests were present for the Final Absolution at the cemetery.

Sister Raineldis had been assigned to the teaching staff of St. Stephen's when she left the novitiate in 1922, and remained there continuously since that time, teaching the third grade. She had endeared herself to both priests and people, especially the children she taught. Six of her former pupils were her pall-bearers. The honorary pall-bearers were Sister Hilaria, Sister Louis, Sister Rosette, Sister Protase, Sister Joselma and Sister Neri. During the days she lay in state in St. Stephen's Church, the Sisters, children and parishoners offered prayers for the repose of her soul throughout the day and night.