



Sister Ludmilla, formerly Mary Skluzak of Detroit, Michigan, died after a lingering illness at the Motherhouse at 6:50 p.m., Thursday Dec. 1, 1932.

In the April previous Sister Ludmilla had submitted to an operation, hopeful that she would be able to resume her duties in the classroom when school reopened in September. Her hopes were not realized for after being dismissed from the hospital she was confined to the infirmary of the Motherhouse until the latter part of July. At that time she returned to the hospital - St. Anthony's in Chicago - for treatments and remained there until October when she was again brought to the Motherhouse. Death seemed a matter of only days. Still Sister lingered on, suffering patiently and enduring the great discomforts of her sickness with heroic fortitude and cheerfulness. A smile was never long absent from her face. It was with a smile she greeted those who came to see her, while a smile of gratitude thanked for the least act of kindness done for her comfort. Even during the last few days of her life when she was extremely weak, she would open her eyes from time to time and smile her appreciation of those who were watching at her bedside.

The Sisters had spent long vigils at her bedside when death seemed imminent. From about two o'clock in the afternoon of the day on which she died, different groups of Sisters had remained at her bedside praying and expecting every breath to be her last. The bell calling the Community to the Holy Hour at 6:45 left only the nurse, Sister M. Consolata and Sister Leonissa who was convalescent with Sister Ludmilla. Scarcely had the bell been rung, when Sister Consolata saw that Sister was dying. Before Reverend Mother and Sister Aloysia, the local Superior reached her bedside she had passed away.

Sister Ludmilla died in the sixty-ninth year of her age and the forty-ninth of her religious life. She had entered as a postulant shortly after she had come from Bohemia to the United States. An account of her entering the convent as a postulant is written in connection with the death of Sister M. Delphine McMahon in Book I, page 137, of the annals. Sister Ludmilla spent about half of the years of her religious life at St. Wenceslaus, Chicago. She was sent there as a postulant to teach the Bohemian language. Her entire teaching career had been spent with the children of the primary grades and the last ten years were devoted to the Kindergarten children of St. Procopius Parish Chicago. She herself seems never to have lost the simplicity and cheerfulness characteristic of the little ones.

A solemn Requiem High Mass was offered by the Chaplain, Rev. Aloysius Fromm, OFM, assisted by Rev. Dominic Kotek, OSB, the assistant pastor of Saint Procopius Parish, Chicago, and Rev. Lullus Seeboth, O.F.M. She was buried in St. John's Cemetery, Joliet, on Dec. 5, 1932.