

SISTER M. NORBERT VESELY
235. MAY 14, 1940

Sister M. Norbert, Barbara Vesely, died suddenly at Guardian Angel Home, Joliet, IL, on Tuesday, May 14, 1940, at 1:50 a.m., in her 66th year and the 49th of her religious life. The cause of death was acute coronary occlusion. Funeral services were held in the Motherhouse Chapel on Thursday, May 16, at 8:15 a.m. with burial in St. John Cemetery, Joliet, IL.

About a week after Sister Norbert's death, Sister Camilla received this letter:

Here is a little history of the late Sister Norbert's life, which up to the time of the entry into the convent was quite uneventful, and after her entry, I believe, Sister, that you are perhaps more acquainted with her fruitful life. She was born in the year 1874 of peasant parents at Dobsice, a village in Bohemia, then under Austria,-- in the country of Blatna. At the age of 12 she migrated with her parents and two sisters and two brothers to America where they settled in Chicago --in the old Pilsen Bohemian district in the vicinity of St. Procopius Church. She attended St. Procopius School for about two years --then she worked for a while in a tailoring shop, which seemed to be the general out-of-home occupation for girls. She was an apprentice and perhaps did nothing more than pull stitches out of men's clothing. At age 17 she entered the convent at Joliet and from that age until her death was a faithful member of that community, with which you are so well acquainted.

She is survived by two brothers: John and Frank, both of whom live with their families in Chicgo, Illinois.

Her mother died when Sister was perhaps 19 years old.
Her father lived to a ripe old age and died in 1922.

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We loved our Sister Norbert--we were glad we were able to see her--we will pray for her--and ask her in turn to intercede for us. She must be in heaven. I inherited her long rosary, and I am happy to have it. We are also glad to have the enlarged picture of her--she must have been happy always--she looks so happy in her picture, and I am sure she wanted us to see her and is happy because we did. She had a beautiful funeral.

Thank you Sister for your own kindness to our auntie, and to ourselves.

Yours sincerely,
Mary Vesely
2531 S. St. Louis Ave.
Chicago, Illinois

Sister Norbert began her Novitiate on February 25, 1892, professed First Vows on July 24, 1894, and Final Vows on August 7, 1897. Her Mission Record includes:

1892-93 St. Wenceslas, Chicago, IL	Grades 1,2
1893-95 St. Stephen, Streator, IL	Grades 1-3
1895-99 St. Procop, Cleveland, OH	Grades 6,7
1899-03 St. Stephen, Johnstown, PA	Grades 6,7
1903-04 St. Ludmilla, Chicago, IL	Grades 6,7
1904-07 St. Procopius, Chicago, IL	Grades 7,8
1907-10 St. Joseph, Joliet, IL	Grades 6-8
1910-15 St. Procopius, Chicago, IL	Commercial 1,2
1915-22 St. Procop, Cleveland, OH	Commercial 1,2
Superior and Principal	
1922-27 Sacred Heart, Englewood, IL	Commercial 1,2
1927-36 St. Procop, Cleveland, OH	Commercial 1,2
Principal (1934-36)	Religion, English
November 7, 1936 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL	Convalescing
1937-40 Guardian Angel Home, Joliet, IL	High School
	Grades 5-8

Sister Norbert earned her Bachelor of Arts Degree from DePaul University, Chicago, IL, on June 15, 1924 and her Master of Arts Degree from Loyola University, Chicago, IL, on August 6, 1926. Her thesis was entitled: "Early History of Testing Movement." She also audited classes at Gregg College in Chicago in 1930, long after she had been teaching these subjects. She attended Summer Session, 1933, at University of Illinois, Urbana.