

+
+
+ + + + +
+
+
+

Sister M. Nemesia Zadow

Our dear and venerable Sister M. Nemesia, the former Agnes Zadow of St. Wenceslas, Chicago, after sixty years in religion and eighty-eight years of full living, this morning at 7:10 o'clock answered God's call to rest.

Sister had spent the last nine years at the Motherhouse, having come to the Infirmary from St. Boniface in March of 1946 because of a heart condition. After three months' care she was able to take up residence in the Motherhouse where as portress she continued to be of service until in 1953 increasingly severe headaches, poor eyesight, and rheumatism made it necessary to relieve her of duties; and in March of 1954 she was assigned to the infirmary. A heart attack on April 12, 1955, was the forerunner of her death.

During her fifty-five active years - from 1894 to 1949 - Sister Nemesia was engaged chiefly in two occupations--for twenty-six years she did needlework at the Convent, Academy, and at Saint Boniface, at the latter mission also teaching needlework and pyrography; for twenty-nine years she was sacristan at various missions; the Convent; St. Mary, Columbus; St. Clement, Sacred Heart, and St. Boniface, Chicago. All these missions she remembered happily and spoke of fondly, but it was St. Boniface, where she spent the last fifteen years of her mission life, that she most often reminisced about during her final years at the Motherhouse.

Those who knew Sister Nemesia pay tribute to her for her beautiful needlework and for her conscientious and painstaking work in the sacristy. The exquisite vestments and altar linens which she stitched found ready sale, and when this activity was discontinued Daleiden, Chicago, regretted losing one of its best supply sources. Sister years later still treasured her stencils, designs, and patterns for illuminating, and she loved no pastime more than showing them to some companion of artistic tastes.

As sacristan, she was all loving energy and precision. She gave herself, she spent herself, and was always ready to begin again. At St. Mary's, for instance, even severe foot trouble--though it slackened her pace--could not stop her progress, Across the pebbled yard she made her painful way and, arrived in church, gave herself no respite till all was done--exactly as it "ought to be done."

Ever exact and careful, Sister Nemesia retained this quality to the end. The infirmarian states she would never go to bed early without asking permission; in the morning if she was not able to go to Mass, she would get out of bed to report that she was sick and unable to attend. Warm and friendly by nature, she was grateful for even the most ordinary kindness shown her and always expressed her thanks for any service. The prayerful spirit of the true sacristan was hers, and now that she no longer could make her work a prayer, all her waking and sleeping hours were still for Him who day and night dwelt in the tabernacle close to the walls that sheltered her.

Funeral services were held in the Convent Chapel on May 7 as reported in the Obituary record.