



Born: February 28, 1911
Parents: George and Mary Flajnik
Entered from: St. Joseph Parish, Joliet, IL
Postulancy: October 12, 1929
Novitiate: August 12, 1930
Profession: August 12, 1932
Died: Tuesday, December 21, 1999 at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL at approximately 9:40 p.m.

Ministry:
1932 - 1936 SS. Peter and Paul, Chicago, IL, Grades 2, 3, 4
1936 - 1937 St. Joseph, Joliet, IL, Grade 7
St. Procop, Cleveland, OH, Shorthand, Typing, Religion, English
1937 - 1939 St. Joseph, Joliet, IL, Grade 8
1939 - 1941 St. Procopius, Chicago, IL, Religion, English, Latin, History, Algebra
1941 - 1942 SS. Peter and Paul, Chicago, IL, Grade 6
1942 - 1943 St. Joseph, Joliet, IL, Grade 8
1943 - 1944 St. Mary, Columbus, OH, Grade 7
1944 - 1945 St. Mary, Columbus, OH, Typing, Commercial classes
1945 - 1949 St. Peter, Mansfield, OH, Grade 7
1949 - 1951 Sacred Heart, Englewood, Chicago, IL, Grade 8
1951 - 1952 St. Peter, Mansfield, OH, Religion, English, Typing
St. Mary, Columbus, OH, Religion, Typing, Shorthand
1952 - 1953 St. Clement, Chicago, IL, Grade 7
1953 - 1954 Corpus Christi, Columbus, OH, Grade 7
1954 - 1957 St. Francis de Sales, Chicago, IL, Grade 8
1957 - 1958 St. Peter, Mansfield, OH, Religion, Typing, Shorthand
1958 - 1959 St. Mary, Columbus, OH Bookkeeping, Commercial classes
1959 - 1962 College of St. Francis, Joliet, IL, Secretary of Faculty meetings and
Development Committee
1962 - 1992 Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL, Director of Offset
Department: preparation, duplication, distribution of student
seatwork used in schools staffed by the congregation; projects
1992 - 1999 Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL, Retired

Wake: Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL, Thursday,
December 23, 1999 from 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.; prayer service at 9:30 a.m.

Mass of Christian Burial: Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, Joliet, IL, Thursday,
December 23, 1999 at 10:00 a.m.

Burial: Thursday, December 23, 1999 after Mass to Resurrection
Cemetery, Romeoville, IL Section 8, Lot 338, Grave 7

Survived by: her brother Joseph Flajnik of Joliet, IL

*For those who have been faithful, O Lord,
life is not ended, but merely changed.*

Sister Olga Flajnik was born in Joliet on February 28, 1911 to George and Mary Flajnik. On March 19, 1911, the feast of St. Joseph, she was taken to St. Joseph Church in Joliet, where she was baptized Anna Elizabeth. She grew up in the company of her four brothers: George, John, Michael and Joseph and her two sisters Mary (Sister Ivana) and Kathryn. The children attended St. Joseph School and together with their parents were active in parish and school activities.

When Anna was 18 years old, she was received as a postulant with the Franciscan Sisters in Joliet on October 12, 1929. Her sister Mary (then Sister Ivana) had come to the convent in 1925 and was already professed and teaching in Chicago. Father John Plevnik, pastor of St. Joseph Church wrote a letter to Mother Thomasine recommending Anna as a worthy candidate, saying: "This is to inform you that I have known Miss Anna Flajnik for many years and I can recommend her to you as a girl of high character and of good habits..." Young Anna had spent time helping out with the work at the rectory, so he would have known her well.

On August 12, 1930, Anna was received into the novitiate and given the name of Sister Mary Olga. Following first profession of vows on Aug 12, 1932, Sister Olga began her ministry of teaching at SS Peter and Paul in Chicago. Her ministry continued in various other Chicago schools, as well as in Columbus, Cleveland and Mansfield, Ohio and at St. Joseph School in Joliet and the College of St. Francis in Joliet.

In 1962, when Our Lady of Angels had just opened, Sister Olga moved to OLA and began a new ministry as Director of the Offset Department, where she and Sister Ivana worked to support the congregation publications, including the seatwork drillsheets used in the elementary schools and other work as time allowed. They continued this work for 30 years, working amid the noise of the machinery and the tension of deadlines, but always with a great sense of dedication and accuracy.

Sister Olga was an avid reader, and recently had taken a special interest in reading the biographies of saints. Her deep spirituality, developed in her youth, was obvious already as a young sister. In a letter to Mother Thomasine in which she requested to make perpetual vows, Sister Olga wrote, "The step which I hope I may be allowed to take is a serious one, I realize, but I have not at any time hesitated in the least. I know that what others have done and are trying to do to make them saints, I also can do with the help and inspiration of Him Whom we are so privileged to have with us in our little Chapel. With this in view, may I have your permission to make Perpetual Vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience on August 12?" Sister Olga was very conscientious about her spiritual life. She was conscious of God's presence throughout the day and could often be seen in a gesture which appeared to be scratching her forehead, when indeed she was tracing three small crosses on her head, praying that God give her "a right mind." On many nights she could be found in the chapel late at night or very early in the morning, praying in the darkness before the dawn. When Sister Olga promised to pray for you, you knew she would follow through.

Sister Olga was devoted to her family. She was faithful to her Sister Ivana in her lingering illness. She was devotedly cared for her brothers, most recently for Joe. She had planned to accompany him for his dialysis session on Tuesday, December 21, 1999. That day, while she was in her room catching up on reading the newspaper and resting between some chores she was doing for others, God called Sister Olga to eternal rest.

Sister Olga, we thank you for your many years of dedicated service to the church, to our congregation and to your family. Pray for us that we may live lives of dedication and service. May you enjoy the blessing of living in God's house together with your family and your Franciscan sisters. Amen. Alleluia.

