

**SISTER MARY CATHERINE GABOR, O.S.F. (Gratian) 672**

**Born:** March 10, 1912 - Mansfield, OH  
**Parents:** Martin and Anna (Bartl) Gabor  
**Postulancy:** September 5, 1927  
**Novitiate:** August 12, 1928  
**First Profession:** August 12, 1930  
**Final Profession:** August 12, 1933  
**Died:** Wednesday, June 27, 1990 at 9:05 p.m. at  
Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home.



**Ministry:**

1930 - 1934 St. Raymond, Joliet, IL, Grades 1, 2 & 3  
1934 - 1935 St. Pascal, Chicago, IL, Grade 4  
1935 - 1940 St. Boniface, Chicago, IL, Grade 5  
1940 - 1945 St. Francis Xavier, Chicago, IL, Grades 4, 5 & 6  
1945 - 1946 St. Mary, Columbus, OH, Grade 6  
1946 - 1951 Our Lady of Mercy, Granville, OH, Teacher and Organist  
March 1951 Marybrook Academy, Maumee, OH, Organist and Music Teacher  
1951 - 1952 St. John, Joliet, IL, Grade 3, Music, Asst. Organist  
1952 - 1958 Our Lady of Mercy, Granville, OH, Organist, Music, Teacher  
1958 - 1959 St. Joseph, Manhattan, IL, Grades 3, 4, & 5, Organist  
1959 - 1960 St. Mary, Plainfield, IL, Grade 2, Organist  
1960 - 1963 Holy Family, Bayfield, WI, Grades 3 & 4  
1963 - 1964 St. Francis de Sales, Toledo, OH, Grades 4, 5, Organist  
1964 - 1966 St. Joseph, Freeport, IL, Grade 5  
1966 - 1968 St. Edward, Ashland, OH, Grades 4, 5, 6, Organ  
1968 - 1972 Our Lady of Grace, Muskegon, MI, Grades 5, 6, 7, 8, Music  
1972 - 1976 St. Peter, Mansfield, OH, Grade 5  
1976 - 1981 St. Coleman, Pompano Beach, FL, Grade 3, Receptionist  
1981 - 1982 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL, Retired  
1982 - 1990 Our Lady of Angels, Joliet, IL, Retired

**Wake:** Friday, June 29, 1990 from 2:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Prayer service at 4:30 p.m.

**Mass of Christian Burial:** Friday, June 29, 1990 at 7 p.m.

**Burial:** Saturday, June 30, 1990 Resurrection Cemetery at 9:00 a.m.

**Survived by** sister, Betty Weber, and brothers, Al and Paul.

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

On Wednesday evening, June 27, 1990, at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home, our Sister Mary Catherine Gabor (Gratian) was born to the fullness of life eternal. She died gently and peacefully, anointed, and surrounded by her Sisters.

Mary was born March 10, 1912 in Mansfield, Ohio to Anna and Martin Gabor. She was the fourth child of nine, and learned in her childhood the family lessons of sharing. She wrote that her parents were the most influential persons in her life. She said, "They instilled in us a deep reverence for God and for each other. Their virtues of honesty, justice and kindness formed our characters." She remained close to her family, and will be dearly missed by her sister Betty, and her brothers Al and Paul.

St. Peter's parish in Mansfield, Ohio was the center of her life as a child. It was there she was educated by our Sisters, and began to understand her call to religious life. It was the pastor, Msgr. Goebel, who wrote a letter of recommendation for her to enter the Congregation. In September, 1927, at the age of fifteen, she made the journey to Joliet to become a postulant. Only last Saturday, June 23, 1990 from her wheelchair in the balcony of Our Lady of Angels Chapel, she celebrated her Diamond Jubilee. Although physically and mentally frail she seemed to be conscious of the significance of the day. She was so excited to see some of her family members, and smiled her gracious smile whenever someone congratulated her.

Our Sister Mary Catherine was an elementary school teacher for fifty years. She enjoyed teaching, especially the nine to twelve year olds. "They are so eager to learn, and their characters can be molded." The progress of her children was always a source of deep satisfaction for her.

She was a piano teacher and an organist too, although she always said, "I'm really not an organist, I just know how to read the notes." She experienced the frustration of eighteen mission changes, many of them prompted because of the need for an organist.

She spent six years at Our Lady of Mercy in Granville, Ohio, and here she developed a great love for the "special children" who were mentally retarded. Later at Ashland, Ohio her great joy was to teach CCD to mentally retarded students.

We will always remember Sister Mary Catherine for her good nature, "giggle" and love of good times. She was a community person, and enjoyed her sisters. She said she liked big groups with lots of variety. So many of our Sisters speak of the fun loving spirit she brought to their community living. She was a generous woman, volunteering summer after summer to "do pots" in a hot kitchen at Our Lady of Angels. Even during these last months that were so difficult for her, she was always ready to respond to her visitors with a big smile, and a thank you for every act of kindness.

Sister Mary Catherine, we thank you for your sixty-three years as our Sister. We will miss you, but we rejoice with you in the fullness of unity you now experience with your God. Remember us, your Sisters, before the God who was always the center and focus of your life here on earth. Amen! Alleluia!

