

SISTER M. ALICIA GLEASON  
287. JUNE 28, 1948

ST. RAYMOND CHURCH, JOLIET, IL, JULY 4, 1948  
BULLETIN ITEM:

It was a weekday Mass last Thursday, St. Raymond School children slowly marched in, the choir slowly ascended to the balcony, but for the first time in these last three years there was no quiet, black robed person at the church door to see that youngsters entered in dignified orderly lines, that the Choir didn't burst upstairs in noisy fashion, that the last tardy little one found his correct place in Church. But Sister Alicia was present, because it was her Mass, and little feet were exceptionally quiet as row after row of pupils sought places in Church to join Father Hoover in the Divine Sacrifice offered for repose of the soul of their beloved principal.

**Great educators teach as much by example as by word**, and Sister Alicia through force of her quiet personality, unflinching kindness and saintly piety has imparted undying lessons to those committed to her charge. Her intelligent, tasteful moulding of the student body in those three short years has already established a standard of conduct and achievement for the new Addition that will last as long as that building endures. Not a brick has yet been laid, but as Father so magnificently stated in his sermon, the new School Addition bears the imprint of her influence as surely as if she were alive to lead eager little ones into the brand-new classrooms. St. Raymond's can build well, confident that the spirit of Sister Alicia is present to guide and inspire.

**The Bulletin forwards appreciation and gratitude** of St. Raymond's Sisters for thoughtful remembrance of them by parishioners in the Convent's hour of bereavement. The Sisters thank all who called, who offered cars, and sent food and pastries. The family of Sister Alicia requested expression of gratitude for a typical St. Raymond kindness and the sympathy and aid extended to them by our parish. (Besides this beautiful tribute, Father Hoover also paid for Sister Alicia's funeral and burial as a gift to the Sisters.)

Helen Gleason was born on January 23, 1897, in Chicago, IL, to Patrick and Mary Kelly Gleason. She came to the Congregation from St. Francis de Sales Parish, Chicago, IL, on December 7, 1917. She became a novice, Sister M. Alicia, on August 12, 1918, and made First Vows on August 12, 1920, and Final Vows on August 12, 1923. She celebrated her Silver Jubilee on June 23, 1945.

In her beginning days of teaching Sister Alicia experienced constant pain but never allowed her suffering to interfere with her disposition or duties, as her Superiors attested.

Sister Alicia was well prepared for her teaching assignments. She earned a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree from DePaul University in Chicago, IL. She was certified by the State of Illinois to teach both in Elementary and Secondary Schools.

Sister Alicia's Mission Record includes:

1920-23 Sacred Heart, Hubbard Woods, IL  
Grades 3,4

1923-25 St. Pascal, Chicago, IL  
Grade 5

1925-27 St. Raymond, Joliet, IL  
Grades 7,8

1927-28 Sacred Heart High School, Englewood, IL  
Commercial I

1928-29 St. Mary, Des Plaines, IL  
Grades 6,7

1929-33 St. Mary High School, Columbus, OH  
Business Courses, Journalism, School paper

1933-37 Our Lady of Mercy, Granville, OH  
High School Subjects

1937-38 St. Francis de Sales High School, Chicago, IL  
Religion, English, Latin, Business, School paper

1938-40 St. Peter High School, Mansfield, OH  
Social Studies, Business, School secretary

1940-41 Immaculate Conception, Columbus, OH  
Superior, Principal, Grade 8

1941-42 Sacred Heart, Hubbard Woods, IL  
Superior, Principal, Grades 7,8

Fall 1942 St. Peter High School, Mansfield, OH  
History, Business, School secretary

Jan. 1943 St. Francis de Sales High School, Chicago, IL  
Religion, English, Social Studies, Typing, Algebra

1943-44 St. Francis Academy, Joliet, IL  
Business courses

1944-45 College of St. Francis, Joliet, IL  
Assistant Registrar

1945-48 St. Raymond, Joliet, IL  
Superior and Principal