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Sister M. Imelda Hanzl

After a brief final illness of two weeks, Sister Imelda closed her devout and serviceable life on Sunday, July 20, at 6:39 p.m., in the Motherhouse Infirmary. She was seventy-five years of age and had lived in religion fifty years. Sister had been brought to the convent infirmary on July 5th suffering with lobar pneumonia. After several days she developed pulmonary infarct, which led to complete cardiac failure.

The former Teresa Hanzl of Chicago, Sister was the daughter of Frank and Maria Boukalova Hanzl. She had entered the convent from St. Procopius parish on October, 1907 and had made profession in 1910.

Funeral services were held in the Motherhouse chapel on Wednesday, July 23rd. His Excellency, the Most Reverend Bishop Martin D. McNamara, presided at the Solemn Requiem Mass, which was celebrated by Father Gervase, chaplain. Besides the assisting clergy, Rev, Joseph Andel, pastor of Holy Family, Cleveland, was present in the sanctuary. - Interment was made at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Joliet.

Except for a single year at Streator, Sister Imelda's forty-nine years in the classroom were spent in only two cities, Chicago and Cleveland. Chicago claimed Sister for eleven years, four years being spent at St. Procopius, and four at St. Ludmilla's. She totaled thirty-seven years in Cleveland, being stationed at Holy Family for thirty years and at St. Procop's the remaining seven. Her classes through the years ranged from the first to the eighth grade.

A mild teacher, Sister Imelda met the challenge of the classroom with patient perseverance. Her lessons were always conscientiously prepared and her faithfulness to duty was an accepted fact. She worked persistently to form the characters of her pupils, guiding them with a gentle rather than with a firm discipline.

Artistically inclined, Sister enjoyed drawing and sketching and found great pleasure in decorating her classroom. She was an earnest student, loved books, and continued year after year to improve herself by attending the summer classes at the College. She followed educational topics and methods with keen interest, and was a consistent contributor to school magazines.

Sister Imelda was ever a faithful religious, regular in her observance, helpful to her Superiors, and pleasant to her Sisters. Though beset with family worries, she calmly accepted her difficulties and developed always a greater capacity for helpfulness. Her deepest concern was for the last of her brothers, John, at Manteno, who found in her one who was "all things" to him. His visit to the infirmary during her last illness was a consolation as well as a sorrow to both. To the Sisters it seemed that her help and her prayers for him continued beyond the grave, for scarcely had she been laid to rest when John, too, was called to eternity.

In all respects, it could be said, Sister Imelda was "faithful unto death"; and surely, winning in death eternal life, she is eternally faithful.