

29. Sister Xavier Hunk  
October 1, 1890

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### Sister Xavier Hunk

On the first of October, 1890, Sister M. Xavier, formerly Margaret Hunk of Neoga, Illinois, died at the Motherhouse in the thirty-seventh year of her age and the twenty-first of her religious life. She was a full sister of Sister Vincent. Having spent fifteen years as teacher in our parochial schools at Chicago, Illinois, New Hamburg, Missouri, and in Mansfield, Ohio, she was appointed successor to Sister Aloysius as local superior and matron of St. Mary's Industrial school for Indian girls at Bayfield, Wisconsin. She acquitted herself creditably of the duties of this two-fold office for three years. In 1885 when Sister Siena, the local superior of the Motherhouse at Joliet, was obliged to resign on account of poor health, Sister Xavier was selected to fill her place. In 1887 at the general chapter held at Joliet for electing the general officers of the community she was chosen as one of the council members. In the spring of 1890 her health began to fail and being no longer able to comply with her responsible duties she retired from office the following vacation.

Sister Xavier was a humble religious and a model of piety to those under her care. In her weekly admonitions to the Sisters she was wont to lay special stress on the duty of being present at, and of joining in the daily community prayers, and in this she set the first example; her place in the chapel was rarely seen vacant during the spiritual exercises of the community.

Sister Xavier was also blessed with a mild disposition. No harsh words ever escaped her lips. All had access to her, no one was ever repulsed. Although comparatively young in years when she ceased her labors on earth it may be hoped that her zeal for God's honor and glory, and her labors during the twenty years of convent life, which ended in a long and painful illness, have merited for her an immortal crown in the kingdom of heaven.