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Sister Irene Kennedy

Sister Mary Irene Kennedy died at St. Joseph's Hospital, Joliet, Illinois, about two weeks after an operation for appendicitis. Sister Irene had been teaching at Central Catholic High School, Toledo, Ohio, since September 1934. About a month before her death Sister was out of school, the doctor having ordered her to the hospital for examination and observation. She went to Mercy Hospital, Toledo, on March 13 and remained there until March 21 when she left to become a patient in St. Joseph Hospital, Joliet. The doctor at Mercy Hospital had diagnosed her trouble as gall stones and said an operation would be the only remedy. Reverend Mother Thomasine made the annual canonical visitation of Immaculate Conception Convent, Toledo, while Sister Irene was at the hospital. When Reverend Mother visited her, Sister Irene requested to go to St. Joseph's Hospital, Joliet, to be under the care of Dr. Raymond Kennedy if any surgery had to be performed. Accordingly Sister Fidelia accompanied Sister Irene to Joliet. She went directly to St. Joseph Hospital and an operation for appendicitis was performed on March 25. After the first few days it was evident that Sister's condition was not promising. As the days went on it became more and more evident that unless a decided change for the better took place, and at once, she would not recover. She had received the last sacraments, seemed to realize fully that she would not recover, and was perfectly resigned to die. She died about ten minutes after ten on the night of April 7 - Tuesday of Holy Week. She was conscious to the end, praying with those at her bedside. Sister M. Antoinette, her sister, had been with her almost continuously during the last few days. Her death resulted from acute suppurative appendicitis for which she had been operated. Her death occurred in the fifty-sixty year of her age and the thirty-ninth of her religious life.

The funeral services were conducted by the chaplain, Father Thomas, OFM in the Calvary shrine at the entrance to the chapel of the Motherhouse at one o'clock on Good Friday afternoon. The Requiem Mass was celebrated on Friday of Easter week at 6 o'clock - the Community Mass of that day. The remains were buried in St. John's Cemetery.