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Sister Scholastica Kiefer

Sister Scholastica Kiefer died on Sunday morning, February 28, 1937 about five minutes of nine. At the time of her death she was in the eighty-sixth year of her age and the sixty-fourth of her religious life. Sister Scholastica was totally blind for at least eight years before her death. Her eyesight began failing many years before, so much so, that she was brought to the Motherhouse in 1920. She remained there until her death the greater part of the time having been spent in the infirmary. Those who lived at the Motherhouse during the last few years of her life will long remember her call, "Sister." She had a way all her own of saying this. Day or night made no difference, the call was often heard because to her all time was dark night. Even when one was in the room with her she would think herself alone and would call. Her voice was strong and clear and carried far. Sister Innocentia was her night nurse for many months. She herself had been brought to the Motherhouse to recuperate and after she felt better she went on duty as Sister Scholastica's night nurse.

Sister Scholastica bore her affliction with edifying resignation. She was never heard to repine over the loss of her sight. To the last her rosary was constantly with her and only God knows the blessings and graces she asked and obtained for the Community in general and the individual Sisters. It was her delight to sing hymns, and it was astonishing to hear how well she could sing at her age. Sister Justina, the infirmarian, often started her out on some German hymn to the Blessed Virgin, etc. Sister would continue right through to the end, sometimes singing it over several times.

The solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated in the Convent chapel by the chaplain, Rev. Thomas Rust, OFM on March 2. Father Constantine Bach, pastor of St. John's Church, assisted as deacon and Father Roman Hasenstab, O.F.M. as sub-deacon. The remains were laid to rest in St. John's Cemetery.