



Sister Christine Knecht

Sister M. Christine, formerly Anna Knecht of Leonore, Illinois, died of diabetes mellitus and cerebral hemorrhage at St. Joseph Hospital, Joliet, about 9:30 p. m. on November 16, 1932. Just 50 years before she had entered the convent, having been admitted as a postulant November 17, 1882. At the time of her death she was in the seventieth year of her age and the fifty-eighth of her religious life.

Although Sister Christine had been ailing for some years, she was able to be on duty, and when she was taken to the hospital on October 25, everyone felt that with treatments and medical care, she would be able to resume her duties in a few weeks. Instead her condition became steadily worse. On the afternoon of November 16, she fell into a coma and died that evening about 9:30 p.m. During her illness at the hospital she retained the patience and calm which were so characteristic of her all through her life.

The earlier years of Sister Christine's life were spent at various mission houses of the Community engaged in household duties. At two different times, for several successive years each, she was in charge of the kitchen at the Motherhouse. However, the greatest number of years, about twenty-five, she spent at Guardian Angel Home, performing duties either in the kitchen, as prefect, or in the serving room. The last seventeen years of her life were spent at the Home, and during most of this time she was in charge of the sewing room, where as the Joliet Herald News so aptly expressed it, "She mended clothes and hearts." Day after day, from morning until evening, interrupted only by the Community exercises, Sister Christine plied the needle or treaded the machine, sewing on buttons, mending and patching, or making new garments for the little boys and girls of the Home.

On November 19, a Solemn Requiem High Mass was offered by the Chaplain, Rev. Aloysius Fromm, OFM. assisted by Rev. Lullus Seeboth, OFM and Rev. Celestine Strub, OFM. She was buried in St. John's cemetery, Joliet. Her niece, Sister M. Leontine, was among the other relatives who came to attend the funeral.