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Sister M. Juliana Pankanin

Our Diamond Jubilarian of last Monday, Sister M. Juliana Pankanin, was this Monday called to "accept the incorruptible crown of everlasting glory" prepared for her. She died, peaceful and resigned, at 12:22 p.m., following a two-weeks' illness in the Infirmary.

Admitted to the Infirmary June 15th, Sister suffered a slight cerebral thrombosis the following day. Father Ermin heard her confession and anointed her--she had not lost consciousness. On Jubilee day she was pleased with the visit from the Bishop, who congratulated her and gave her his blessing.

Though another attack of thrombosis occurred Saturday, the 28th, she was still conscious and received Communion Sunday morning. In the afternoon she contracted a fever, which mounted to 106 degrees before death released her the following day.

Sister Juliana was the former Martha Pankanin of Chicago, daughter of Anton and Mary Scheier Pankanin. She was in the eighty-second year of her age and the sixty-third of her religious life. The funeral was held in the Motherhouse Chapel on Thursday, July 3rd, His Excellency, the Most Rev. Bishop Martin D. McNamara presiding at the Solemn Requiem Mass. Rev. Casimir, O. Carm., a former pupil of hers at Holy Cross, was present in the sanctuary. - Burial was made at Mount Olivet Cemetery.

Sister Juliana spent fifty-seven years in the schools of our Congregation -- twenty-eight of them at Holy Cross, Joliet. In Chicago she served at St. Wenceslas for sixteen years and at St. Francis Assisi eleven years. - Hers was a true vocation to teach. Wholesome and hearty, she retained her enthusiasm for the work into her old age. Her favorite subjects were religion, reading and penmanship - and she prided herself on the ability of her pupils to read, to write, and to pray.

She had a deep sympathy for the poor, and many a piece of clothing asked from wealthier parishioners found its way to a needy child or its mother. She raised the morale of her class by forming them to the good habit of keeping scrubbed hands, combed hair, and clean clothing. She was happiest when a religious procession allowed her to outfit her pupils in the school regalia. "It makes life brighter for them," she would say. And her evaluation of her pupils was also bright. No child was ever "impossible" to her. Praise and encouragement were her means to raise the level of conduct or achievement when these were low. She would never embarrass a child; for the visitor asking something for a report, if there was nothing noteworthy just then, she would find something good of the past week or the past month to cite. Her children knew she was their friend.

The last four years of her life Sister Juliana was stationed at the Motherhouse, where she considered it her special appointment to "pray for the Community." And faithfully she performed the task. She would go about, carrying her rosary everywhere, and her days were all interwoven with prayers "for Reverend Mother," "for the Council," "for the sick," "for the teachers," "for all my Sisters." She had a special devotion to the Holy Family, and "Jesus, Mary, and Joseph" was the oft-repeated prayer during her illness and was the last one she said aloud before passing to their eternal care.