



Sister Wilhelmina Pesicka

Sister Wilhelmina Pesicka passed away in the Infirmary of the Motherhouse on July 23, 1934 after an illness of a little more than three weeks. Sister had been among those who had made the first retreat of the summer. During the retreat she was apparently in good health, at least in as good health as she had for some years. She had followed the exercises of the entire retreat and at its close returned to St. Wenceslaus late in the afternoon of Jubilee Day which was also the closing day of retreat. All who met her as she was preparing to leave to return to her mission recalled afterwards how happy she had been and how eager she seemed to return to her work. She had been assisting with the lighter household duties at St. Wenceslaus, and no doubt, since several Sisters had been assigned for residence there while attending the summer session at De Paul University, she felt she could help just so much more. Her plans did not work out. The day after her return from retreat she suffered a stroke, was taken to St. Anthony's Hospital, Chicago, and for several days hovered between life and death. In about two weeks she had recovered sufficiently that it was possible to have her brought home to the Motherhouse. It was readily evident that complete recovery was impossible. She grew worse day by day until she succumbed on July 23. The last Sacraments had been administered while she was at the hospital in Chicago. At the time of her death Sister Wilhelmina was in the sixty-third year of her age and the forty-first of her religious life.

A solemn requiem Mass was celebrated in the chapel at the Motherhouse on July 25 by Rev. Eligius Weir, O.F.M. Rev. Arnold Schwarz, O. F. M. assisted as deacon, and Rev. Dominic Kotek, O.S.B. of St. Procopius Church, Chicago, assisted as sub-deacon. Burial was made in St. John's Cemetery.

Sister Wilhelmina had taught in the primary grades of some of our parochial schools in Chicago, Cleveland and Streator. In 1919 her failing health required that she be released from classroom duty. From that time until her death, with the exception of one year spent as sacristan at the Motherhouse, she had assisted with the lighter household duties of the convent, principally at St. Ludmilla's and St. Wenceslaus.