

SISTER M. CLARISSA SCHLESIGER
243. FEBRUARY 2, 1942

Sister Clarissa, formerly Mary Schlesiger, died at the Motherhouse on February 2, 1942 at 3:14 a.m. in her 61st year and the 44th of her religious life. The cause of death was coronary thrombosis following a long period of myocarditis. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, February 4, at 8:15 a.m. Burial was made in St. John Cemetery, Joliet.

Mary Schlesiger was born on February 24, 1881, in Cleveland, Ohio, to Vincent and Elisabeth Bushnell Schlesiger, both originally from Germany. When she was 16 years old, Mary came to the postulancy on August 13, 1897. As Sister Clarissa she began her Novitiate on March 25, 1898, and pronounced her First Vows on August 15, 1901 and Final Vows on August 12, 1907.

Sister Clarissa's Mission Record included:

1898-99 St. Peter, Mansfield, OH	Grade 6
1899-07 St. Boniface, Chicago, IL	Grades 2-7
1907-10 St. Louis, Washburn, WI	Grade 8
1910-14 Sacred Heart, Englewood, IL	Grade 8
1914-15 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL	Convalescing
1915-17 St. Mary, Columbus, OH	Grades 8,9
1917-18 St. Joseph, Joliet, IL	Grade 5
1918-19 Holy Family, Bayfield, WI	Grade 8
1919-22 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL	Normal School
1922-23 St. Francis Academy, Joliet, IL	High School
1923-26 St. Clement, Chicago, IL	Commercial
1926-27 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL	Convalescing
St. Pascal, Chicago, IL	Grade 7
1927-30 Sacred Heart, Englewood, IL	Commercial
1930-33 St. John the Baptist, Joliet, IL	Grade 8
Superior and Principal	
1933-36 Guardian Angel Home, Joliet, IL	High School
1936-38 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL	Convalescing
1938-39 St. Boniface, Chicago, IL	Portress
1939-40 St. Bernard, Joliet, IL	Portress
1940-41 St. Mary, Columbus, OH	Portress
St. Francis Prep, Joliet, IL	Convalescing
1941-42 St. Francis Convent, Joliet, IL	Convalescing

Sister Clarissa suffered with exophthalmic goiter during her 30's and 40's, undergoing surgery at the Mayo Clinic, St. Mary Hospital in Rochester, Minnesota, in 1914, 1915, 1922 and 1926. Even though she was experiencing this suffering, Sister Clarissa earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from DePaul University, Chicago, in 1923 and then her Master of Arts degree from the same place in 1925. With a major in English and a minor in History, the title of her thesis was: "Irving, America's Greatest Romancer."