

Sister M. Petronella Gecas
October 17, 1911 - October 5, 2002



Secular Name: Anna Barbara Gecas

Entered: February 11, 1930

Place of Birth: Chicago, Illinois

Parents: Casimir Gecas; Veronica Raudaite

Siblings: Barbara, Charles, and Peter

Ministry:

In 1932 Sister M. Petronella began the work that she would do for the whole of her religious life--that of housekeeping, dietary and laundry services. She served in these capacities first at St. Peter's in Kenosha, WI. Her next 3-year assignment was at St. Casimir's in Kansas City, KS. In 1937 she came to work in our convents in Pennsylvania: 3 years at St. Vincent de Paul's in Esplen; 3 years at St. Joseph's in DuBois,

In 1943 she was changed from a parish setting to work in the dietary department of Good Samaritan Hospital, at Mt. Vernon, IL. The following year she was needed at Holy Trinity Convent in Hartford, CT. In 1945-47 Sister M. Petronella went again to St. Joseph's in DuBois for 2 years, to St. Peter's in Kenosha for 3 years, and then to St. Vincent de Paul's in Esplen for 6 years. In 1957-61, she served the Sisters at SS. Peter & Paul Parish in Grand Rapids, MI. From 1961 on, Petey (as she was lovingly called) remained in Pennsylvania. Her service record shows the following sequence of assignments from 1961 to 2002:

- 1961-62, St. Francis Academy cafeteria
- 1962-63, St. Casimir Convent, Pittsburgh
- 1963-65, St. George Convent, - Philadelphia
- 1965-69, Mt. St. Peter, New Kensington
- 1969-75, Laundress at the Motherhouse
- 1975-78, SS. Peter & Paul, Elizabeth, NJ
- 1978-80, Holy Trinity, Moon Run, PA
- 1980-93, St. Francis Convent, Motherhouse
- 1993-95, SS. Peter & Paul, Grand Rapids, MI
- 1995-02, Motherhouse services; prayer ministry

Throughout her ministry of 72 years, Sister M. Petronella's kindness, generosity, and prayerfulness reflected the Gospel message of peace and loving service to all.

"The One who fashioned the hearts of them all, knows all their works." (Ps. 33)