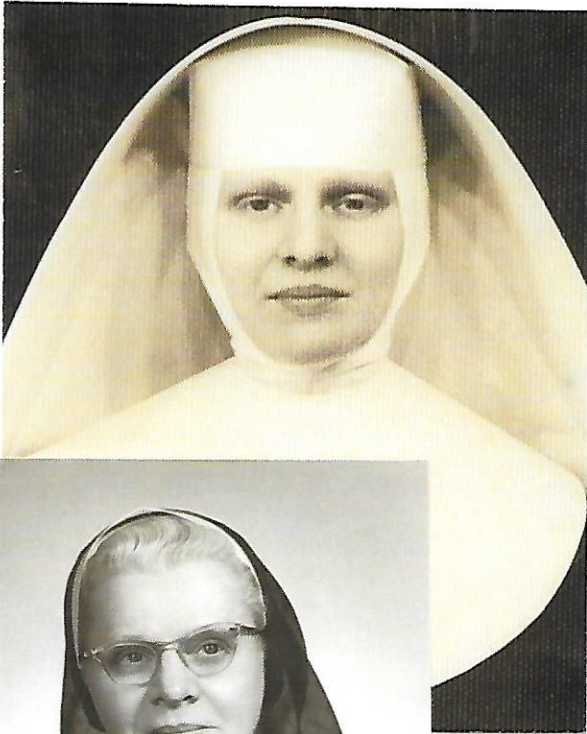


Sister M. Loyola Sebelskas
December 28, 1906 - September 11, 2003



Secular Name: Helen Christine Sebelskas
Birth Place: Chicago, IL
Entered: May 5, 1925 (Millvale)
Parents: John Sebelskas; Adolfinia Velaviciute
Siblings: Paul ; John ; Leonard
Elementary School: St. George, Chicago, IL
Higher Education: Englewood Business College
Duquesne University
Degrees: B.A. and M.A.
Certification: English; Social Studies; Scriptural
Theology

Ministry:

Sister M. Loyola's began teaching Grades 3-4 as a postulant. Following her profession of temporary vows in 1927, Sister taught at Holy Trinity School in Hartford, CT. Her grade school teaching ended in 1931 when she was assigned as a full-time student at Duquesne University. In 1938 she became principal of St. Francis Academy. In 1950 she was elected "Mother Superior."

During her 12 years as Mother Superior, she did for her congregation what Pope John XXIII later did for the Church: she opened windows to let in the fresh air of fewer restrictions and of expanded facilities. For the Sisters she offered release from silence at meal time and mitigation days. For students, she built St. Clare Hall and the Activities Building. She replaced the wooden chapel of 1932 with Mary Immaculate Chapel to accommodate over 200. Provision was made for future needs: a library, lecture room, and spacious dining area.

In 1962-66 Sister Loyola was placed in charge of a Sisters' Formation Group at Holy Family College in Manitowoc, Wis. For five years she not only monitored the education of our junior Sisters, but also taught English literature at the College. In 1967-68 Sister was assigned to our Good Samaritan Hospital. In 1968-72 she was elected General Councilor. In 1972-80 she served as General Secretary. Then in 1980 Sister M. Loyola was appointed to be our first Archivist and is credited for setting up a good foundation for future archivists.

In 1991 Sister M. Loyola was ready for her final ministry of prayer. In spite of poor eyesight and a disabling hip problem, Sister continued her ministry of manifesting her love for God by loving and serving her Sisters and all the people of God humbly, joyfully, sincerely, and prayerfully.

***"Humility is to have a place deep in the secret of God's face,
where one can know, past all surmise, that God's great will alone is
wise."*** (From the poem "Humility" by Jessica Powers, OCD)

