

**Sister M. Aquina Zidanavich**  
**November 17, 1915 - February 1, 2004**



**Secular Name:** Antonine Zidanavich  
**Birth Place:** New York, NY  
**Entered:** February 23, 1932  
**Parents:** Joseph; Eva Urmanavich  
**Siblings:** Albert  
**Elementary School:** Annunciation, Brooklyn  
**High School:** Queen of All Saints, Brooklyn, NY  
St. Francis Academy, Pittsburgh, PA  
**Higher Education:** Duquesne U. St. Francis  
Hospital, and Mercy Hospital in PA  
**Degrees:** B.S. in Pharmacy  
**Certification:** Pharmacist; Medical Records



**Ministry:**

Grade 9 at St. Joseph School in DuBois, PA, was Sister M. Aquina's first teaching assignment in 1933-34. For the next four years she taught Grades 7 and 8 at St. Joseph's. In 1947-49 she returned for another two years, then followed a year of catechetical work in Kearny, NJ.

When the congregation went into the health care ministry, Sister M. Aquina was assigned to train for nursing at St. Francis Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA. For health reasons Sister could not complete the course. She was assigned to be the secretary and manager of the school office at St. Francis Academy where she also taught part time, 1947-49.



In 1949-53 Sister was a full time student at Duquesne University working for a B. S. degree in Pharmacy. She interned at Mercy Hospital. For twenty-one years, 1953-74, she was Director of Pharmacy Services at our Good Samaritan Hospital in Mt. Vernon, IL. Two more years as Pharmacist at St. Joseph Hospital in Alton, IL, ended her Pharmacy career but not her ministry in health care. She was transferred to Medical Records for a period of nine years, and did clerical work at St. Joseph's Hospital for four years.

From 1989 to 1994 Sister M. Aquina was engaged in motherhouse services and made use of her talents as a craft artist. She produced exquisite stitchery, crocheting, and knitting for use as gifts or items for sale in our Craft Shop. Illness interrupted her activities, and from 1994 on, she endeared herself to nurses, aides, and visitors as a happy and cooperative patient. Sister M. Aquina left an enduring legacy of love and happiness in the midst of pain and diminishment.

***"God has filled her with the skill to do every kind of work done by  
an artisan, or by a weaver in blue, purple and crimson yarns."***

*(Exodus 35:30)*