

Sister M. Monica Belskas, OSF
June 5, 1918 - December 18, 2014

Secular Name: Anna
Entrance: September 12, 1937
Birth: Cherry, IL
Parents: Carl and Mary Belskas
Siblings: Joseph, Anastasia, Vincent
Elementary School: St. Anthony School
High School: St. Francis Academy, Pittsburgh, PA

Ministry:

Equipped with the knowledge gained from a variety of courses, conferences and workshops, Sister Monica's work life centered about housekeeping. This ministry began at various locations from Elizabeth, NJ, to Los Angeles, CA, and assorted sites in between. It culminated with her being named Executive Housekeeper at Good Samaritan Hospital in Mt. Vernon, IL, a position she held for 26 years, from 1963 through 1989.

Sister took delight in her work and was once told that she and her hospital crew maintained the "cleanest hospital in the Midwest." She fondly earned the title, "The White Tornado," as whatever task she and her staff undertook, ended up spotless. One of Sister Monica's other passions was decorating for the Christmas holidays and she is remembered for the beauty she created at the hospital. Sister returned to the Motherhouse in 1989 and supervised the housekeeping and laundry departments for the next 10 years.

As Sister Monica took her daily walk to chapel, she always found time to stop and chat with anyone she met. She often said that God had blessed her with good common sense and she was most willing to give advice to those who asked.

Sustained by a deep prayer life, Sister once remarked, "I must say that being a Sister of St. Francis is a cause dearest to my heart as well as the fact I am able to pray for others and be of service to them. To anyone interested in religious life, I merely say, Come and see."

May God look upon you with kindness
and give you peace.

