

SISTER MARY MEYNARD STANISZEWSKI, 89, died in Our Lady of the Angels Convent, Chicago, Illinois, after having lived 71 years in religious life.

Sister Mary Meynard was born to Andrew and Agatha Staniszewski on July 7, 1920, in Chicago, Illinois. She was the third oldest of ten children. Sacred Heart Parish was the setting of her baptism on July 11, 1920, at which time she received the name Emily.

The example of her parents' strong faith and trust in God prompted Emily to enter the Felician Sisters postulancy on June 28, 1938. A year later she was invested with the habit and received the name, Sister Mary Meynard. Three of her siblings also entered religious life: Father Jerome became a Franciscan Priest, Sister Mary Theresia and Sister Mary Leonard entered the Felician Congregation.

Sister Mary Meynard served for sixty-two years in the ministry of elementary education in various schools in Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Her love of children enabled her to be an excellent teacher and later a very capable principal. Her last ten years in elementary education were spent in tutoring children, helping them as best she could to learn and excel in their studies.

As Sister Mary Meynard aged in years and grace, she was assigned to Our Lady of the Angels Convent in 2000 as a patient visitator. She graciously shared her humor, her positive outlook on life, her desire to bring joy and contentment and, most of all, her deep faith and love for God. Her personality and her spirit made her presence among the sisters times of fun, laughter and comforting reminiscing. Sister Mary Meynard truly enjoyed her life and treasured her relationships with her all-loving God, family and her sisters in community.

In 2008, Sister Mary Meynard was diagnosed with a heart condition and her memory began to suffer the effects of aging. She was supported by the love and presence of her family, her fellow sisters and the nursing staff who provided services to her. But in December 2009, her health significantly declined. On the morning of May 24, God called Sister Mary Meynard peacefully home to Himself.

Her loving sisters, Theresa and Jean, other devoted family members and friends, and members of the Felician community, attended the Wake and Mass of Christian Burial held on May 26, 2010. After the Commendation on May 27, her body was taken for interment to St. Adalbert Cemetery in Niles, Illinois.