

SISTER MARY FELICIS GUCA 83, died in Swedish Covenant Hospital, Chicago Illinois, after 65 years in religious life.

Sister Mary Felicis was born in Chicago, Illinois on October 11, 1926, first of four children of Vincent and Mary Guca. At her Baptism in Sacred Heart Parish Church on October 24, 1926, she was given the name Florence.

After finishing elementary school, Florence entered the aspirancy and attended Good Counsel High School. Following her senior year, she sought admission into the Felician Franciscan Order and was accepted, given the religious name of Sister Mary Felicis at her Investiture on August 2, 1945. She pronounced her first vows on August 12, 1946 and committed herself to God for her whole life at her Final Profession of Vows on August 12, 1945.

Sister Mary Felicis spent most of her religious life teaching in primary grades in Illinois and Minnesota. Sister Mary Felicis' gentle ways were experienced by the little children whom she patiently taught to read and write. When Sister Mary Felicis retired from full time teaching, she served as a tutor helping those students who were struggling with their school work. Not only did sister perform other assigned tasks but she lovingly anticipated the needs of others, both the sisters in the convent and the catechists in the Religious Education Program.

Sister Mary Felicis became a resident of Our Lady of the Angels Convent in 2003 when her health began to decline. She gracefully accepted the ministry of prayer and suffering without complaining. Even in her days in the infirmary, Sister Mary Felicis continued to reach out to others by her involvement in the stamp ministry for the missions and the scapular ministry.

On November 23, 2009, Sister Mary Felicis gave God her all and died quietly in the midst of her family and her sisters in community. Sister Mary Felicis was the first sister to die as a member of Our Lady of Hope Province in North America.

Her nieces and nephews, friends, and sisters in community attended her Wake Service on November 27, 2009. After the Mass of Christian Burial on November 28, 2009, her body was taken for interment to St. Adalbert Cemetery in Niles, Illinois.