

Sister M. Anna Skube, O.S.F.

Franciscan Sister of the Sacred Heart

Born: March 23, 1917, Springfield, Illinois

Entered Religious Life: September 15, 1934

First Vows: March 19, 1937

Final Vows: March 19, 1940

Died: December 10, 2011

Ministered at St. Charles Borromeo School, Fort Wayne

August 22, 1958 – July 26, 1964

First Principal, Grade 8 Teacher, Sister Superior



Obituary:

Eileen Christine Skube was born March 23, 1917 in Springfield, Illinois to John M. and Anna (Buedel) Skube and was baptized on April 8 at Sacred Heart Church. The family would grow to include five brothers – John, Edward, William, Thomas and Frank (Brother Francis) and six sisters – Marcella, Mary Virginia, Anna Marie, Dolores, Catherine (Sister Aniceta), and Dorothy Ann.

Sister shared that she always wanted to be a religious and as a child played “Sister” with her younger siblings. However, at times her brothers refused to play and this made her pretend community a bit small. Upon completion of 8th grade she asked if she could enter the convent, but since she was the eldest with **10** younger brothers and Sisters, her dad gave an emphatic “no!” She found her first two years of high school so wonderful that she put going to the convent behind her. However, in her third year her desire returned, and this time her dad said “yes.” She entered on his birthday, September 15, 1934, sharing that her entrance day was the happiest day of her life. She was received into the Novitiate on March 19, 1935, and was given the name Sister M. Anna. On March 19, 1937 she took her first vows and on March 19, 1940 professed her final vows.



Sister Anna earned a B.A. in Philosophy and an M.A. in Theology from the University of St. Francis in Joliet, Illinois and continued with further course work at several colleges and universities. For more that sixty-five years Sister Anna served as teacher and principal, ministering at both the elementary and secondary levels in schools in Illinois and Indiana. In this ministry she touched the lives of countless students stating that it was her privilege to be able to prepare students for the sacraments, to train them in Christian values, to aid the older students in becoming the best teenagers God intended them to be, and to help all of them form their prayer lives. As a member of our religious congregation, she served on various Boards, was the Director of Education for our congregation, and in July 1984 was elected Second Councilor. Part of her legacy to the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart is to the women who are proud to call themselves Sister Anna's novices, as she was Director of the Postulants and Novices from 1964-1970.

In 2004 on the occasion of her 70th jubilee she wrote, “Praise God for my call to the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart when there were four other religious congregations in my hometown. I had Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart as teachers in grade school, and it was their living as sincere and dedicated religious that inspired me to want to be one of them. To all my Sisters, I thank God for each of you!” When asked how she would celebrate her jubilee year she said, “Just as I have done all these years. Each morning I hand over my life in surrender to whatever God asks of me, spend ample time before the Blessed Sacrament, work hard to reverence the Trinity in each of my Sisters and live my vows as I promised so joyfully many years ago.”

At 2:20 p.m. on December 10, 2011 Sister Anna brought to completion her daily prayer of surrender to the will of God as she slipped quietly into the welcoming arms of her God.



St. Charles School, Fort Wayne, Indiana (*circa 1960*) – Some of the early Sisters who taught at the new school
Sisters M. Lorita, M. Ildephonse, M. Leonore, Frances Marie, M. Anna, Marilyn (*a.k.a.* M. Henry)