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# Deaths

## Father Walter, SJ

Father William J. Walter, SJ, a Western New York missionary priest, who served for the past 27 years on the Caroline and Marshall Islands in the South Pacific died Friday, Dec. 26 at the VA Hospital in the Bronx after a long illness.

A native of Buffalo, he entered the Jesuits in 1923. He served as a chaplain in Australia and the Philippines during World War II and volunteered for missionary work in 1947 when Pope Pius XII asked the Jesuits to establish missions in these Caroline and Marshall Islands.

He is survived by four brothers, John, Stephen, and Francis of the Buffalo area and Ernest of Wolcottville, Ind.; three sisters, Mrs. Mildred Orrange and Eleanor of Kenmore, and Mrs. Marion Hoadley of East Lake Road, Auburn.

Father Walter will be buried on the island of Mogmog, where he built the last of several churches in the Missionary District.

## Eileen McInerney, Social Worker

Eileen McInerney, a former Catholic Family Center Social Worker, died Jan. 4, 1976, in St. Mary's Hospital. She was 61 years old.

Msgr. Arthur E. Ratigan was principal concelebrant of the Mass of Christian Burial last Thursday in St. Thomas More Church. Bishop John E. McCafferty gave the absolution. The homilist was Father Joseph D'Aurizio, director of Catholic Charities. Others concelebrating were: Father Francis Pegnam, pastor; Father Frederick Helfrich, associate pastor, and Msgr. William Naughton.

Miss McInerney, a specialist in the care of foster children, worked in the Catholic Charities social service agency for 34 years, from 1937 until 1971, and also served as a temporary consultant to the Elmira office.

She was born in Rochester and educated at Nazareth Academy, Nazareth College, and the University of Buffalo, from which she held a master's degree in social work. Her home was on Forest Hills Road, Brighton.

She was a director of the Catholic Women's Club and a member of the National Association of Social Workers, the Retired Social Workers Club and the Nazareth alumnae associations.

Surviving is a sister, Mary J. McInerney.

## Sr. Raphael, RSM;

### A Teacher 60 Years

Sister Mary Raphael Spillane, a Sister of Mercy who taught at Aquinas Institute through its first 28 years, died Jan. 6, 1976, at the age of 79.

She was the first principal of Notre-Dame High School in Elmira, and still was teaching last year, rounding out 60 years in the profession.

Her Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated last Thursday evening in the Mercy Motherhouse chapel.

Sister Raphael's teaching career began in 1915, between her graduation from Nazareth Academy and her entry into the Mercy congregation in 1916. During that year at St. Francis Xavier School, a colleague recalls, she was said to be the highest paid lay teacher in the diocese — at \$11 a month.

Fifteen years of her ministry were spent in administrative positions. She was principal of Notre-Dame from 1955 until 1962 and before that, was principal and a teacher at

Elmira Catholic High School for two years. When she left Notre Dame, Sister Raphael became vice principal of Our Lady of Mercy High School. During her six years in the position, she also taught Latin.

Her longest apostolate was at Aquinas, where she taught Latin, French, and religion from 1925 until 1953.

She and the other Mercy Sisters on the faculty commuted to Aquinas from their Motherhouse at St. John's Park, Charlotte, and then from the new Motherhouse when it was moved to Blossom Road, Brighton. While living at St. John's Park, Sister Raphael rode the streetcar every Sunday to St. Louis, Pittsford, to teach religion classes.

Her first teaching assignment as a Sister of Mercy was at Holy Cross School, where she taught sixth grade in 1916. She taught also at St. John the Evangelist, Humboldt Street, and from 1922 until 1925 she had the first year class at the old Cathedral High. Her last assignment was as a Latin teacher at Mercy from 1968 to her retirement in 1975.

Sister Raphael took bachelor's and master's degrees at Canisius College, Buffalo, with a major in Latin and a minor in French. She also studied at Catholic University, Washington, D.C.; Marguerite Bourgeoys, Montreal; Laval, in Quebec, and Colgate.

Her mother was born in Alsace-Lorraine, and her father in London.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Raymond J. Brown, and several nephews and nieces. Among the nieces is Mercy Sister Marie Raymond Brown.

## Sr. Austin Teresa

The Mass of Christian Burial for Sister Austin Teresa Donke of the Sisters of St. Joseph was celebrated in the Motherhouse Chapel Jan. 3, 1976, by Fathers Joseph Reinhart, Thomas Wheeland and William Endres. Also present was Msgr. William J. Naughton.

Sister Austin Teresa entered the Sisters of St. Joseph from Holy Redeemer Parish in 1920. She was a teacher in the schools of the diocese for nearly fifty years, chiefly at St. Patrick's, Mt. Morris; St. Ambrose, Rochester; Nativity BVM, Brockport; St. Mary's Elmira; and St. Anthony's, Rochester.

She is survived by one brother, Eugene Donke of Rochester, and three sisters, Mrs. Norman Forest of Hallandale, Florida; Mrs. Joseph Wendelgass of Pompano Beach, Fla.; and Miss Lucille Donke of Rochester, also several nieces and nephews.

## Sr. Sylvia Rogers

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Jan. 2, 1976, for Sister Sylvia Rogers, SSJ, who had taught music in schools of the diocese for nearly 50 years. Father Joseph Reinhart was assisted by Father John Norris and Msgr. William J. Naughton and Father Frederic Walz also were present at the Mass in the Motherhouse chapel.

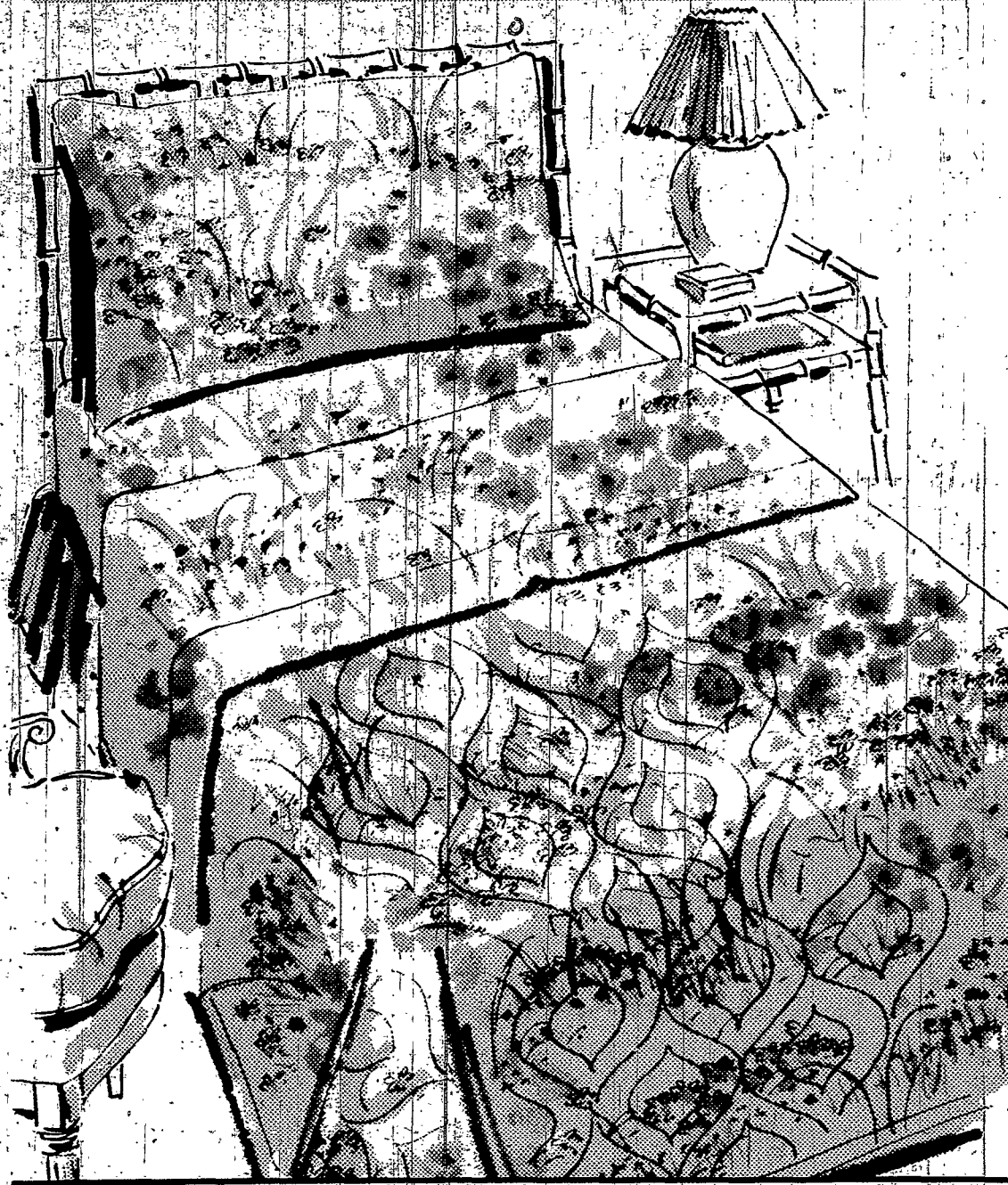
Sister Sylvia entered the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1920 from St. Monica's Parish. She received a degree in music at Marywood College, Scranton. The schools at which she taught include St. Mary's, Elmira; Holy Apostles, Nazareth Academy and Blessed Sacrament, Rochester.

Survivors are a sister, Mrs. Antoinette Geraghty, a niece and a nephew.

### SPORTS NIGHT

Penn Yan — Tickets for the fifth annual Sports Night at St. Michael's Church hall on Thursday, Feb. 12, are available. Bob Legault should be contacted at 223 Walnut St. or Henderson's Drug Store.

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