MOTHER MARY GERALD BARRY DIES

Served for 28 Years
As Mother General
Of Adrian Sisters

Mother Mary Gerald, 80 years old, possessed of a sparkling Irish wit which she brought from her native County Clare, Ireland, but been the vigorous and aggressive Mother General of the Dominicans for 28 years.

Under her leadership the educational facilities of the order have grown and expanded as never before. To the Dominicans and in other orders of the Catholic faith she was known as an enlightened leader and one with a great desire to carry the blessings of education to all people in all walks of life.

She has been responsible for the education of nearly 100,000 young people in all walks of life.

The Adrian Chamber of Commerce presented Siena Heights, the mother house of the order, a postcard message, sent in 1946, in accord with the great Dominican pattern—laudare, benedicere, ut uxor habere.

Mary Gerald will be noted in the United States and the Caribbean.

We, members of the Barry College Community, Miami, Florida
offer a tribute of love, of admiration, of prayer.
We shall be forever grateful to God for His gift to us of a woman extraordinary in her devotion to Christian education, in her dynamic love, her world-embracing charity; of a woman whose influence has penetrated many souls in many lands through many years.
May she be at peace for all eternity in the Blessed Vision of God.

The Faculty and Students of Barry College
November 21, 1961

Barry President and Co-founder
Eulogized at Solemn Requiem Masses

Mother Mary Gerald Barry, Mother General of 2,170 Adrian Dominicans and President and Co-founder of Barry College, died at the Order’s Motherhouse, Adrian, Michigan, on November 20.

On the morning following Mother Gerald’s death, Father George Gaynor, former chaplain at the Motherhouse, celebrated a Solemn Requiem Mass in Holy Rosary Chapel. After Mass, Father Joseph Juraska, O.P., gave the first in a series of many eloquent eulogies.

“From five o’clock until Mother’s soul departed, perpetual vigils were observed by the Servite Region... Litany and the prayers for the dying. Slowly and quietly the end came. It was indeed a solemn moment... Father Gaynor and Father Frawley; her confessor of the past ten years, Father Stuart; and her brother in St. Dominic, Father Jurasko; the sisters nearest and dearest to her were there; all her Councillors and several Mothers Provincial.

Sister Benedicta Marie was at Mother’s side during these hours as she had been so faithfully during the past many months. All this was just the way Mother prayed it would be... Mother was very praying God until her very last instant on earth, in accord with the great Dominican pattern—laudare, benedicere, et praedicere.

She died as she lived, praising God in every moment with her whole heart, soul and strength.”

Father then related this incident from his own experience which he felt showed the humility, simplicity and greatness of Mother— a greatness that he came to recognize in the space of the three short years he has spent at the Motherhouse.

“Three years ago when I learned unofficially that my assignment for the following fall was to be Adrian, I became curious about the place. I had never seen it. I did not personally know any single Adrian Dominican. One day, passing through Adrian, I planned to drop into the Motherhouse unnoticed, to get a glimpse of the place without bothering a single soul. I succeeded until I entered the lobby at the main entrance and a Sister began approaching me, whom I tried to wave off by saying I was just passing by and did not want to inconvenience anyone, but the good Sister insisted that I be shown around. Somehow or another it dawned upon me, this could be Mother Gerald, and sure enough it was.

The point is, Mother was ever on the alert to see to it that priests were cared for. She would put anything aside to see to this.

“I believe the greatness of Mother Gerald will be noted in her very earnest willingness to serve the priests who have been consecrated for the service and worship of God. She wanted nothing more than to serve the servants of God. She was a priestess of priests. This morning we knelt in silence, in admiration, and in veneration of a great soul, a great person, one who lived a full Christian life.

“We would indeed be remiss if we were not grateful to God for the gift of a Mother Gerald to this great Dominican Community. She challenges us to pay her daily tribute, not by words of praise but by deeds. To follow in her footsteps is her wish for the children. She has placed the Dominican ideals high in her vision; to falter in that vision would be to let her down. She has blazed the path; it now remains for her children to follow her as she followed Saint Dominic, and Saint Catherine.”

Many people throughout the country whose lives were affected by her work — those who knew Mother Gerald and those who were affected by her work.

Continued page 4
Mother Mary Gerald’s Letters  
Likened to St. Paul’s Epistles

I know you will make it a preparation for the presenting of your souls to the Infant Jesus. Prepare the way for His coming every day and on His birthday have a Feast very close to your heart where abound His love and grace. May you hear the blessing of the love of His Sacred Heart; may He find your work ever a golden song for His ears to hear; may you be spurred to do and to dare sacred and noble things for His sake.

August 22, 1944  
Mrs. Margaret Brady Farrell, a very good benefactress of the Community, passed to her eternal reward on August 14th and I ask that you offer for her soul one day’s good works, Mass, Communion, extra rosary, and the stations. I wish you would make the date of this offering August 29th.

Many of our friends in the service of our country are now being called upon to make the supreme sacrifice. Nearly every day I hear of someone registering on this roll of honor. Please ask the Supreme Judge to be their Savior and offer earnest prayer for them. We will have a Mass for all those called Home in Holy Rosary Chapel on August 31. Join your prayers with ours on that day.

November 15, 1944  
The young men in the service of our country give their lives and they are a noble example. We have vowed our lives in the most sacred cause and we ought to be the light that He wants us to be and the salt that will save His kingdom on earth. Keep ever close to Him and let the song of the angels be in your heart and on your lips, glorifying Him and praising Him and thanking Him for the wonderful things He has done for you. . . . In the army there may be forced duty and the gun is the sign that forces us to accept it, the cross is the reminder of the all loving sacrifice that has gone before us and still walks with us.

It is well-known among the Sisters that Mother Gerald took up huge tasks for the Community in the simplest way beginning with a casual announcement. In August of 1943 Mother wrote: I am very anxious to compile a set of meditations for each day of the year, written by our own sisters and emphasizing the Dominican Saints and Blessed. There are many capable sisters who could help to do this work. We can base the meditations on the Epistle and Gospel of the day and the life of the Saint of the day, and follow the form given in Veracruzay and not follow the ascetic way. I think that the Sisters will have the word of God very well absorbed if they use the meditations of St. Thomas and the Baltimore Catechism which is the back bone. . . . Do not fear this work but simply contribute and God will inspire you.

In May of 1942 Mother wrote that since the year 1942 marks the fiftieth year of the foun-
Mother Gerald Eulogized at Masses

(Continued from page one)

December 2, 1961

Dear Sister Mary Alice,

I just read in the New World that Mother Gerald went to her eternal reward November 29. Mother Gerald was well loved and I know she will be missed not only by her Adrian Dominicans and Barry College but by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

In recent years Mother’s health had kept her from doing many former tasks and from direct contact with the Barryites whom she loved. For one was always inspired by her devoted service and in ability, and in all the virtues that make up a wonderful Sister.

Kindest regards.

ANGELA BRANDL

Angela Brandl, editor of Angelicus, 1959-1961, writes of Mother Gerald as she was known and loved by all Barry students.

— Fruit both serviceable and astonishing in the vineyard of the Lord.

As Mother General, Mother Gerald also was responsible for the Catholic education of over 100,000 students in Catholic schools, and the catechetical instruction of 40,000 young people attending public schools.

“Mother Gerald quickly caught the pioneer spirit of her own Community. She was proud with a Christian pride of the past, but she believed even more in the possibilities of the future development and advancement of the interests of Holy Mother Church on every front.

True Spiritual Mother

“Her own Sisters recognized her as a true spiritual mother, one who knew and shared their personal trials, struggles, and difficulties and was always open by her unobtrusive pity and her expansive charity. . . .

“True Sister will long miss Mother Gerald’s ever cheerful greeting, ‘God bless all.’”

Mother Gerald’s person­ality was intense. She thought, she spoke, she prayed, she lived, she served intensely. . . .

In the interests of Holy Mother Church can be proud of, one who caught, and passed on the enthusiasm of the first Chris­

tian centuries, when the Faith was young.”

Archbishop Hoban

Deceased Mother Gerald was among the laid to rest in the Adrian Dominican Community, and of Dominic. “Down the centuries, countless numbers of women have sustained and perpetuated the example of such early Christian women. It is worthy of note that after apostolic times, St. Dominic, the holy Founder of the Order which bears his name, was among the first to recognize the tremendous potential of women in the Church. . . .

Thousands of other Catholic women, inspired by the example of their fathers and zeal of the saintly Dominic, have witnessed to Christ in every possible way. . . .”

Sister Gerald pledged every holy wish, everlast­ing and fervent. . . .

Sister Gerald was among the first to recognize the importance of a spouse of Jesus Christ.

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Among the hundreds of letters of condolence received were letters from Thomas D. Bailey, of the State Department of Education in Florida, and from Monsignor F. G. Hochwalt of the National Catholic Educational Association.

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
TALLAHASSEE

December 8, 1961
Sister Mary Alice, O. P.
Executive Vice President
Barry College
Miami, Florida

Dear Sister Mary Alice:

It is with deepest sorrow that I have learned of the death of Reverend Mother Mary Gerald Barry. Many of our staff have known and worked with her and her contribution and help will be greatly missed by all of us.

Reverend Mother Mary Gerald rendered great service in connection with Barry College and in other endeavors. However, we are sure that under other competent leadership Barry College will continue the very fine work which has always been a part of that institution.

With kindest personal regards, I am
Cordially yours,
THOMAS D. BAILEY

The National Catholic Educational Association
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

November 28, 1961
Sister Mary Alice, O. P.
President, Barry College for Women
Miami, Florida

Dear Sister Mary Alice:

May I extend to you and the members of the faculty sincere sympathy on the announcement of the death of Mother Gerald.

It would hardly be possible to list the favors she granted to me during her lifetime. I borrowed her confidence, her support, her staff, and her encouragement when it was needed most, and I shall never forget or be ungrateful for her many kindnesses.

I have written to Monsignor Barry expressing my sincere sympathy.

Faithfully yours,
F. G. HOCHWALT
Executive Secretary

Served as Mother General for 28 Years

(Continued from page 1)

...national program. She had a deep love for learning and a burning faith in the ability of the Dominicans to press their cause. In her 28 years as mother general the order opened 69 parochial schools located from coast to coast.

The Dominicans have seen the Adrian community grow by leaps and bounds with the addition of a new residence hall, dining room, science building, library and chapel at Siena Heights and a dormitory and classroom building for St. Joseph Academy.

Barry College, opened in Miami, Fla., is recognized as one of the most beautiful schools in America. The college has administration and classroom buildings, a dining hall, three residence halls, chapel, auditorium and a fine arts building.

A still newer school of higher education has been opened in the Dominican Republic. The Colegio Santo Domingo for the Dominicans has administration and classroom buildings, a dormitory and chapel.

A house of studies has been built at Catholic University in Washington for young sisters of the community engaged in graduate work there. A Dominican high school for girls has been opened on Detroit's east side with 1,300 students enrolled; Rosary high school on Detroit's west side also has a capacity of 1,300.

Bohan-Dominican high school has been built in Cleveland, Ohio; and Regina-Dominican high school in Wilmette, Ill., each with a capacity of 1,200.

MOTHER EULOGIZED
(Continued from page three)

Rosarian Academy has been opened at West Palm Beach, Fla.

The Order has opened three hospitals in the West: St. Rose de Lima Hospital, Henderson, Nev., Sisters Hospital and Santa Cruz Hospital, Santa Cruz, Calif. In Adrian, the Dominicans operate St. Clement's Infirmary for the retired members of their order.

In and year out, in the advancement of their goals. It has been a mighty, white clad, black robed, dedicated army that probably never can be measured but the total is well up into the millions. Likewise, the labors of the Dominicans in these humanitarian and educational projects never can be measured.

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Bohan-Dominican high school has been built in Cleveland, Ohio; and Regina-Dominican high school in Wilmette, Ill., each with a capacity of 1,200.

The mourners and the funeral cortège passed solemnly between them. Numbered among the mourners were five archbishops, seven bishops, approximately sixty monsignors, and two hundred priests, many relatives, friends, and hundreds of Mother's daughters in Christ.

On November 25, the last Saturday of the month of the Poor Souls, Mother Gerald, the third Mother General of the Adrian Dominican Sisters and the President of Barry College, was buried beside her predecessors.

Faithfully yours,
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