

Obituary of Sister Reinhardt Hecker, OSB

Sister Reinhardt Hecker, 92, a founding member of the Benedictine Sisters of Annunciation Priory, Bismarck, died Jan. 27, 1994, at the priory.

Funeral Services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday in the Annunciation Priory Chapel, where a wake service will begin at 5 p.m. today. Visitation will begin at 11:30 a.m. today at the priory and continues to service time.

Sister Reinhardt is best known for her 26 years of service as cook and housekeeper at the residence of the Bishop of the Diocese of Bismarck. Her hospitable and congenial nature helped create a home for clergy and special guests.

A great reader and self-educated woman, Sister Reinhardt devoured biographies and histories and enjoyed talking about what she read. "She was a teacher in her own way," says her friend of many years, Sister Andre Hushka.

Sister Reinhardt, the oldest of nine children, was born to Leonard and Marie Eva Hecker in Munich, Russia, on March 14, 1901. When she was 13, the German-Russian family immigrated to the United States and settled on a farm in the Belfield area.

She entered the convent of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, Minn., on Dec. 8, 1921, and made vows on July 11, 1923. Besides serving at the bishop's residence, Sister Reinhardt was a cook in Minnesota and North Dakota on missions staffed by the Benedictine Sisters including 14 years at St. Alexius Medical Center, Bismarck.

She is survived by two sisters, Margaret Houldson, West Missoula, Mont.; and Elisabeth Hecker, Bismarck; three brothers and sisters-in-law, Leonard, Yakima, Wash.; George, Dickinson; Ralph and Mary, Dickinson; Ida Hecker, Dickinson; Sabina Hecker, Belfield; and the Benedictine Sisters of Annunciation Priory.



Sister Reinhardt Hecker was a founding member of the Benedictine Sisters of Annunciation Priory in Bismarck.