

**January 20**  
**Sister Bonaventura Rose**  
**(b. Mary Rose)**  
**(1864-1943)**

Mary Rose, of St. Michael's parish, Monroe, entered the novitiate on February 2, 1885. She received the habit on May 7 and made her vows on May 12, 1887.

Sister Bonaventura was conspicuous for her close imitation of the life of charity, zeal for souls, and self-sacrifice exhibited by her patron.

Her charity was practically unlimited, not only toward the children under her direction, above all the poor, but also in her dealings with the Sisters. On many occasions, when justice would have permitted a little severity, it would be replaced by an act of kindness, and she would say: "Sisters, I would sooner have God regard me as having been too charitable than too severe." No sacrifice on her part seemed too great to be made for the glory of God and the welfare of others. Her heart went out to everybody in sorrow, distress, or need.

Sister Bonaventura all through her teaching life was a thorough and interested educator. Her pupils, especially the backward, the poor, and neglected were the constant recipients of her zeal, and they remembered her for many years, visited her, and always felt deeply grateful for her kind, motherly advice and attention. One great source of pride for her was the number of priests she delighted to enumerate as having once been in her classroom.

Sister spent the greater part of her mission life of forty-seven years at Detroit missions. It was a great sorrow to her in the fall of 1933, when because of serious throat trouble, she was no longer able to use her voice audibly. From that time, until her sudden death on January 20, 1943, she remained at the Motherhouse where her time was occupied in sewing, at which she was also very proficient, and in light, manual labor. Even when she could scarcely move about, she busied herself making scapulars.

During the last two or three years of her life, Sister Bonaventura suffered much from general ill health, heart trouble, and deafness. She was able to be around, however, and was taken to the second floor of the infirmary only the day before she died. Even then she seemed to be in no immediate danger, hence it came as a shock when she was found dead when the nurse went to her room at five o'clock in the morning.