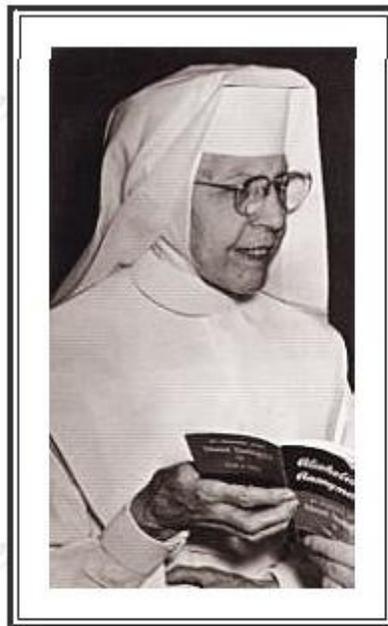


YOU ARE INVITED District 8 Archives
Meeting Saturday, August 2, 2025
at 1:30 p.m. Happy Hour Group

Discussion about Sister Ignatia

On August 16, 1935, Sister Ignatia Gavin, a frail but no-nonsense Catholic sister in charge of admissions at St. Thomas Hospital in Akron, Ohio, with the help of Dr. Bob Smith, one of the founders of Alcoholics Anonymous, admitted the first alcoholic patient under the diagnosis of acute gastritis, thus making St. Thomas Hospital the first hospital in the world to treat alcoholism as a medical condition. Dr. Bob provided the medical treatment, while a steady stream of "reformed" alcoholics helped the man with his "spiritual" needs.



Sister Ignatia
1889 - 1966

Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine
The Drunk's "Angel of Hope"