



Dear Sisters,

Yesterday, May 27, 2013, at 11:00 PM local time, in the Leforte Hospital of São Paulo, Brazil, entered into eternal life our sister:

Sr. M. Ines-Tereza Marcondes
born in Sarutaia – State of Sao Paulo – Brazil, on September 10, 1946.

The third of seven children, she entered the Congregation in São Paulo, Brazil, at the age of 19, on January 19, 1965, when the Institute was taking its first steps in this vast nation. At the conclusion of her novitiate, which took place in Sao Paulo, she made her first religious profession on August 6, 1969, and her perpetual profession on January 4, 1976. Always, and in everything, she showed herself to be a young woman of great faith, a characteristic she cultivated and communicated throughout her life. In her request for admission to the perpetual vows, she wrote:

“What profound joy I experience in dedicating myself forever to the service of God, for the good of my brothers in Christ! On my part, I promise to be faithful to the end. I count on the help of Mary Most Holy who, with the grace of God, will assist me to the end”. She worked constantly on herself to overcome the limits of her character and to render her will flexible and open to the will of God.

In her 44 years as a member of the Congregation, Sr. M. Ines dedicated herself to various apostolates: in Sao Paulo for the confection of vestments (1969); in Caxias do Sul she spent several years (1971-1982) fulfilling various ministries: several times in the priestly apostolate at the Pauline seminary; she busied herself with charity, the diffusion of the Liturgical magazine. She spent many years in the workrooms for sewing and embroidery: in Curitiba (1985), in Brasilia (1986), in São Paulo (1990), in Salvador (1998), integrating this service with the production of candles. The sense of offering, especially for priests, was always present and alive within her.

She attributes to constant prayer and the intercession of Blessed James Alberione the fact that her mother received the Sacrament of Confession after many years. On October 27, 1974, she wrote to Mother M. Lucia: *“It is already many years that I have prayed and asked the Madonna and Primo Maestro that, if it is God’s will, my mother might receive the sacrament of Confession”.* Upon going to visit her in Caxias, she accompanied her to the church of the Capuchin friars and found the courage to propose this to her. *“My mother was very happy to have approached the sacraments because, in her life, she had gone to Confession only twice”.* This event rekindled in Sr. M. Ines the sense of reparation and the responsibility of living her consecration well: *“Mother Maestra, in this event, I feel that the Lord wants to show me his grace in appreciating the religious life and living solely to fulfill the will of God. I want, with the grace of God, to be faithful to my vocation until death”.*

In August of 2008, she was diagnosed with a brain tumor, for which she had to undergo a surgery which deprived her of speech and resulted in the gradual loss of autonomy in movement. The Provincial Superior, Sr. M. Veronice Fernandes, in asking for prayer, had notified us that since April 18, 2013, our sister was hospitalized because of many serious complications, which eventually lead to the peaceful conclusion of her earthly pilgrimage. The sisters bore witness to some of her essential traits: in various ways, Sr. M. Ines demonstrated a strong sense of belonging to God and to the Congregation. As she herself affirmed: *“In listening to the voice of God, in prayer and meditation, I prayed that others may understand that our Eucharistic mission encompasses our entire priestly and liturgical mission. Our life as disciples is beautiful because we must discover ever more deeply the presence of Jesus within us and live this presence”.* Sr. M. Ines manifested this sense of belonging, of intimacy with the Divine Master, day by day, in a simple manner, through her offering and generosity. This is the gift of her passage among us!

Sr. M. Paola Mancini
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