

said, "If I start to fear, I remind myself that I gave my heart and soul to the Blessed Mother when I made vows as a Daughter of Mary."

On another occasion she humbly said, "I have a tiny bit of Saint Therese in me. I have her great longing for Heaven."

Sister's Death

On the morning of December 27, 2013, the feast of St. John the Beloved Apostle, Sister Mary Cecilia died, having received Extreme Unction and the Apostolic Benediction. Her father and the Sisters were kneeling beside her.

For the three days and nights before the burial, the Sisters kept vigil by her, praying for the repose of her soul.

Bishop Santay offered the Requiem Mass on December 30, and Bishop Kelly preached the sermon. Sister was buried in the cemetery on our Motherhouse grounds.



Sister's Great Desire

Sister Mary Cecilia's words and example give the Sisters, and all who knew her, a model of a life well lived and a holy, happy death. As Saint Alphonsus reminds us, "Our most important affair is that of our eternal salvation; upon it depends our happiness or misery forever." Like Sister, we must live with eternity ever before our minds. By doing so, we will imitate the Saints who, as Saint Alphonsus explains, "spent their whole lives in preparing for death by acts of penance, prayer, and the practice of good works."

Let us pray that we, according to our state in life, may be faithful servants of God and love Him with our whole heart and soul. Sister Mary Cecilia expressed this same desire in a prayer which she wrote on the occasion of her first profession of vows.

My Dear Jesus,

I love You and I want to be Yours forever. Please grant me grace to be faithful to my vows that I may become a great Saint. Thank you so much for the grace of a vocation. Bless my parents, bless my brothers and sisters. Accept my heart today and keep it as Your own.

*Your new little spouse,
Sister Mary Cecilia*

Thank you for your concern for Sister throughout last year. Knowing that so many people were praying for her meant a great deal to Sister. Please remember the repose of her soul in your prayers.

In the Sacred Heart of Jesus,
Mother Mary Bosco, F.M.
Mother Mary Bosco, F.M.

