



*"Faith in the resurrection
opens up fraternal communion
beyond the threshold of death ...".
(RoL 24)*



Today, 29 June 2026 at 9.00 am (local time)
in the community of Betânia, Caxias do Sul – Brazil, our sister,

JUREMA CLARY, Sr. M. TEREZINHA MELETTI

has parted this earthly life.

She was 90 years old and 67 years of religious life.

"Look to Him and you will be radiant." On the Solemnity of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, the Father called to Himself Sr Terezinha, who always looked upon the face of the Good Shepherd, and in Him her life as a Pastorella became luminous and her ministry humble and fruitful in love.

Sr Terezinha was born in Caxias do Sul/RS – Brazil on 12 October 1935, and was baptized on 7 November 1935, in the Parish of Santa Tereza in Caxias do Sul/RS. She entered the Congregation on 6 January 1954, in Caxias do Sul – Terceira Léguas, and during her early years of formation, she served as Parish Secretary in Bento Gonçalves/RS. She entered the novitiate on 1 February 1957, in Caxias do Sul – San Leopoldo, and made her first profession on 31 July 1958, also in Caxias do Sul – San Leopoldo. Sister Terezinha had the joy of making her perpetual profession on 16 June 1963, during our Founder's visit to Brazil.

From her initial formation, Sister Terezinha was described as a person of prayer, docile, sincere, simple, and profound, diligent and generous in pastoral ministry, with a great love for the Congregation and a constant commitment to faithfully living the pastoral charism, making the most of the gifts she had received. She was a humble, neat sister, easy to live with, and affectionate.

After her first profession, she remained in Caxias do Sul – San Leopoldo and collaborated in formation as an "assistant to the aspirants," fostering a climate of trust and joy among the young women. She was described as a faithful collaborator who gave her all wherever there was a need.

She carried out her pastoral mission, prioritizing the apostolate in Caritas and especially in the *Comunidade Terapêutica Senhor Jesus – PATNA*, which testifies: *Today our hearts join in prayer to bid farewell to our dear Sister Terezinha, who dedicated her entire life to the service of Jesus Christ*

and to the mission of welcoming, loving, and helping so many people struggling with drug addiction in their journey to recovery. Her presence was a sign of hope, her faith strengthened countless lives, and her testimony will live on in every person who found a new path through her love, dedication, and selflessness. On behalf of all the recovering brothers and sisters of the Comunidade Terapêutica Senhor Jesus – PATNA, we express our profound gratitude for all that sister Terezinha has sown among us. Her legacy of faith, love, and service will never be forgotten.

During her long pastoral ministry, she was engaged in various pastoral fields: 1967 Porto Alegre – Murialdo; 1970 Porto Alegre – Medianeira; 1973 Porto Alegre – Murialdo; 1977 Bento Gonçalves/RS; 1987 Caxias do Sul - S. Leopoldo; 1997 Caxias do Sul – Terceira Léguas; 2004 Bento Gonçalves/RS; 2017 Caxias do Sul – "Betânia" Community; 2022 Caxias do Sul – Terceira Léguas, and since April 2026, she has been in the "Betânia" Community receiving medical care. We thank the sisters and external staff who lovingly cared for Sr Terezinha during her illness.

The sisters' testimonies are a hymn to the work the Good Shepherd shaped in the life of Sr Terezinha and the goodness she sowed through her dedication as a good and faithful Pastorella:

Sr Terezinha was a passionate soul for the Congregation and always spoke of the incomparable joy and grace of having made her perpetual profession directly with Fr Alberione, a memory she cherished with immense love and gratitude. As a formator, in her simple yet profound manner, she introduced us to Alberione, faithfully transmitting to us the charism she had so thoroughly assimilated.

Her missionary life was marked by special and tireless care for those excluded from society, especially drug addicts; she always prayed for them and for those who cared for them. She especially enjoyed praying and giving them the third part of the Chaplet of Mary, Mother of the Good Shepherd, quoting the phrase, "I am a lost sheep: do not let me be lost," reminding them that Our Lady had never abandoned them.

Prayer was the vital center of her day. She devoted long hours to prayer, praying often for the people whose names she had noted in her diary. Attentive to the spiritual needs of those who sought her, she also knew how to use modern means to serve the Gospel, especially in recent times, sending messages of faith and hope via cell phone to all her contacts.

Dearest Sister Terezinha, thank you for your testimony of faithfulness to the gift of your vocation as a Pastorella. As we entrust you to the Father's Mercy, we ask you to intercede for the gift of Peace and solidarity among peoples.

Sr Aminta Puentes
Superior General

Rome, 29 June 2026

Solemnity of Saint Peter and St Paul