



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



Today, 20 February 2024 at 09.15 (local time)
at the Pompéia Hospital– Caxias do Sul-Brazil, our sister

TERESINHA, Sr M. LILIAN DAL SANTO

has parted this earthly life.

She was 82 years old and 62 years of religious life.

While the responsorial psalm invites us to *magnify the Lord and exalt his name*, we give thanks for the life of Sr Lilian as a Pastorella, who lived the pastoral ministry in-depth and simplicity in obedience to the Word and full dedication to the people of God.

Teresinha was born in Chapecó/SC – Brazil on 16 March 1941 and was baptized in Chapecó in the Parish of St. Anthony on 26 May 1941. She entered the Congregation on 15 February 1956 in Caxias do Sul – S. Leopoldo and began the novitiate on the 1st February 1961, again in Caxias do Sul. She made her first religious profession on 2 February 1962 in Caxias do Sul, taking the name of Sr Maria Lilian and, in the same city, she made her perpetual profession on 2 February 1967.

Sr Lilian has been described since her initial formation as a simple, generous, enthusiastic, active, sociable, pleasant person, of deep piety, with a practical intelligence and a great sense of responsibility. She has carried out services in the field of formation, and leadership as a Councilor and was also a community animator. In the pastoral ministry, she worked mainly in the formation of pastoral workers and also for some time as a religion teacher.

Throughout her 62 years of religious life, Sr Lilian served various ecclesial realities with great love and pastoral zeal and held positions in the Province with dedication and responsibility. From her first profession, Sr Lilian carried out her pastoral ministry in various cities in Brazil: 1962 Bento Gonçalves; 1966 Getúlio Vargas; 1970 Porto Alegre – Partenon; 1978 Porto Alegre – Medianeira; 1981 Porto Alegre – "Alberione"; 1982 Cazuza Ferreira; 1987 Caxias do Sul – S. Leopoldo; 1990 Caxias do Sul – Cohab; 1991 Caxias do Sul – S. Leopoldo and in 1994 Getúlio Vargas.

In 1997 Sr Lilian opened up to the mission in Uruguayan lands and more precisely in Paysandú where she remained for two years. After a short period of caring for her health in Terceira Léguas, she returned to Paysandú in 2002, giving all of herself in a reality of great challenges for the Church and society of Uruguay. In 2003, Sr. Lilian returned to Brazil and continued her ministry in Caxias do Sul – S. Leopoldo; 2008 Caxias do Sul – Terceira Léguas; 2009 Santana do Livramento. In 2012 she returned to Paysandú – Uruguay for a year; in 2013 when she returned to Brazil, she continued her ministry in Santana do Livramento; 2015 Londrina; 2019 Caxias do Sul – “Betania” Community; 2020 Caxias do Sul – Cohab and in 2021 Caxias do Sul – “Betania” Community.

The sisters testify of Sr Lilian: *she was an example of fidelity in her life of consecration and to the charism and mission of Pastorella. We admired her serenity throughout her illness. She was a joyful, helpful, enthusiastic presence. A sign of God's presence in our Province. A close, fraternal, lively, generous person, a friend, a witness to a joyful life, available for the needs of the Congregation, the Province, and in particular of the poorest.*

S. Lilian was available, concerned with helping people, and she did not complain about her illness. Her illness was long and quite painful. She always enjoyed having the company of her sisters and health personnel, especially in her moments of pain. During the period of hemodialysis at Pompei Hospital, she was an evangelizing presence among the sick who were in the same situation as herself, marking with memories, prayers, and the presence of God, the main feast days of Easter and Christmas bringing faith to the sick.

Sr Lilian recently faced delicate health problems. She was always cared for with love and tenderness by our sisters and healthcare workers. We thank the sisters of the Province for the loving care and spiritual support they offered to our sister.

As we entrust Sr Lilian to the Father's Mercy, we ask her to intercede for the gift of peace for all the people who are now experiencing the devastating pain of war.

Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes
Superior General

Rome, 20 February 2024
St Jacinta Marto
Pastorella of the apparition at Fatima