

Teresa's sister Juana visited on September 28. Teresa told her of her **desire to move on to Avila, but on September 29, Teresa went to bed never to rise again ...**

On October 3 a 5 pm Teresa asked Padre Antonio to bring her Communion ... While waiting for the Blessed Sacrament **she asked her sisters to pardon her for the bad example she had given them in obeying the rule and the constitutions with perfection. She begged them not to follow in her footsteps** since she had been the worst in observing them.

When the Eucharist was brought in, her countenance changed and grew radiant with a kind of reverent beauty, making her look much younger ...

'O my Lord and my Spouse, now the hour has arrived for us to go forth from this exile, and my soul rejoices in oneness with You over what I have so much desired.'

She also uttered **fervent prayers of thanksgiving to God** for having made her a **daughter of the Church** and **enabling her to die within it.**

Confessing that she was a great sinner, she prayed over and over the **prayers of psalm 51:**

"a heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn;" "cast me not out of your presence;" "a clean heart create in me, o God".

At nine in the evening, she asked to be **annointed** and assisted in reciting the psalms and other prayers.

In testimony given by witnesses ...

On the one hand, she revealed her intense feelings of **sorrow at being a sinner,** repeating pleas for mercy from God

On the other, she revealed her **awareness of approaching union with Christ her Bridegroom** and her urgent longings for that moment ...

The following day, the Feast of St. Francis, her face was aglow, and with a crucifix in her hands she remained in prayer, in deep quiet and peace, without speaking or stirring throughout the whole day ...

When Ana returned, Teresa smiled and with tender love took the humble Sister's arms and placed her head in them.

In this manner, the saintly Madre remained until she died between nine and ten that evening ...

After her death, her countenance turned as white as alabaster and being freed of every wrinkle took on an extraordinary beauty.

A powerful and pleasing fragrance began to flow from her body and spread through the entire house, indeed as the truths of her profound writings would one day spread throughout the world.

Hers was a life unexplainable without God and without the grace that comes through Jesus Christ. Amen

*Let nothing disturb you, Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing away: God never changes.
Patience obtains all things Whoever has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices.*



Teresa of Ávila, also called Saint Teresa of Jesus, original name Teresa de Cepeda y Ahumada, (born **March 28, 1515, Ávila, Spain—died October 4, 1582, Alba de Tormes; canonized 1622; feast day October 15)**

