

The disease made rapid progress. His worn-out constitution always taxed beyond its strength offered no resistance, while the most alarming symptom of his illness was his extreme weakness. Calm in the midst of his sufferings, his sweet smile replacing the kind words whose secret had always been his, he resignedly awaited the end. He read the physician's fears, he accepted the wishes for his recovery, but equally indifferent to all, his only desire was to do God's holy will.

He died far away from his spiritual family, born at the price of many sorrows, educated at the cost of incalculable sacrifices ; but God demanded this supreme sacrifice from his devoted servant ; and the religious of the Most Holy Sacrament had the great grief of learning the death of their beloved Father almost in the same breath as his illness. His annihilation of self is forcibly illustrated by the remark he addressed to two of his confrères who, grief-stricken at his serious illness, hastened to his bed-side. " Why did you come," said he, " it was not worth while." In his eyes, dying was only a necessary action of his service.

He had the great consolation of assisting twice at the holy sacrifice offered in his room and on the last day of receiving again, in the morning, his Lord in Viaticum. The previous evening after being anointed he turned to his sister, saying affectionately, " Adieu, dear sister, all is finished."

About fifteen hours afterwards, he quietly expired fixing a look full of hope on an image of the crucified Saviour. Instantly, his face assumed a life-like appearance ; as if a reflexion of the heavenly life, a sweet smile spread over his lips, as with eyes slightly opened, he seemed to silence the sobs of those who surrounded him, by these words so often repeated during his life : " Whether I am with you or not, what does it matter ? Have you not always the Eucharist with you ? "

Our Lord called him to his well-earned reward on Saturday, the first of August, the feast of St. Peter-ad-Vincula, at the hour of the first vespers of Our Lady of Portioncula, at the age of 57 years, 5 months and 27 days.