

Downloadable Biography

**"Your ways, O Lord, are such madness! They're tearing me apart;
yet, they're the only ones I want to follow."**

María Cecilia Perrín de Buide - (1957-1985)

María Cecilia Perrín was born at Punta Alta, in the Province of Buenos Aires (Argentina) on February 22, 1957. A daughter of Angelita and Manolo Perrín, she grew up in the heart of a Christian family who instilled in her a love for humanity.

Cecilia was small-framed, with lively eyes, cheerful and dynamic. She was very attentive to her personal appearance and loved to wear fashionable clothes.

At college she undertook three different fields of study but in the end she discovered her passion for teaching.

On May 20, 1983, Ceci and Luis Buide were married, after having dated each other for 2 years. Several months later, Cecilia was expecting--news the young couple received joyfully, knowing that a new life inside her was beginning to grow.

In the midst of the joy awakened in them by the approaching arrival of their new family member, the couple would face one of their most difficult trials. In February 1984, during her early months of pregnancy, Cecilia was diagnosed with one of the most serious kinds of cancer. From that moment on, a new pathway opened up before Ceci which would lead her to discover the wonderful meaning of life and God's love.

The doctors confirmed that the illness was irreversible and they proposed to carry out a therapeutical abortion to proceed with the necessary cancer treatments. Having always had a great love for life, Cecilia refused any type of procedure which could harm the baby, even if that meant the cancer would continue progressing.

Cecilia loved life: her own, her pre-born daughter's, her family's, everyone's. That is why she decided to view her disease as a chance to grow spiritually and to be there for those who were close to her on this path.

Each time she became more aware of the cancer progressing, Ceci entrusted herself more deeply to God's love and one day she wrote: *"Today... I was able to tell Jesus 'Yes': that I believe in His Love over and above everything else, that this is His Love for me, that I surrender myself to Him".*

In July 1984, Ceci's daughter, María Agustina, was born, on whom she poured out her love completely, so much so that even in the midst of dealing with her physical and spiritual sufferings, she wanted her daughter to fully experience the joy of living. For this reason, Cecilia

agreed to let her sister take care of her daughter so that her baby would be spared a painful memory.

Those who lived this with Cecilia testify that beyond the suffering she experienced, Cecilia radiated life. Even though she was aware that the disease was winning the battle in her body, in her spiritual experience, life was transcending the earthly level.

When she was no longer able to speak, she started writing letters to communicate what she was experiencing in her soul. All her writings tell of the powerful effects that recognizing love in every suffering had in her life. Supported by her Christian faith, the love of her husband, relatives and friends, and the strength of all those people who had chosen, as she had, to recognize God's love in every situation, even in suffering, Cecilia understood what one of her sisters had said: "Life is worth living till the end!"

Cecilia passed away at the age of 28 on March 1, 1985, leaving a streak of love even for those who didn't have the chance to meet her in person, but are meeting her now through her life story.

Cecilia has since been proclaimed Servant of God and her cause for beatification is in process. Her body rests at Mariapolis Lía, in O'Higgins, Buenos Aires, according to her wishes. Cecilia wanted people who visited her tomb to find a place full of hope, joy, and peace.

.....