

DIES NATALIS

Good Mother Henriette Aymer de la Chevalerie

† 23 November 1834



On the morning of Sunday, October 4, 1829, Picpus was in turmoil. Sister just discovered Mother Henriette lying on the floor in her room. While she was being installed on her chair, she whispered, "I want what you want, yes, my God. You know I love you with all my heart and I'm ready to die if you want. Yes, I want to love you forever. My God, I give you my heart ... " When Fr. Coudrin arrived, she was already unable to speak. For several days her condition was between life and death.

Following that, there was an improvement. However, the paralysis that affected the right side of her body caused her to remain in her seat permanently. Nevertheless, she was able to conduct a conversation for a few minutes. The Foundress would live in such a state for the last four years of her life... On Sunday, 23 November [1834], at 17:30, she died peacefully.

The Good Father gave a beautiful testimony about her in his correspondence:

" We owe her everything, after the Good God. Her heart is as big as her thoughts. Her soul was in pain, ever since she was responsible for the Cross of Our Lord... She supports everything, she keeps everything, and her heart is the container that carries all that pertains to the Congregation in the presence of the storm. (8 April 1824)

For me who knows how things went from the beginning, I tell you that she is our support in front of the good God. It is she who is more the Founder than Foundress, and I know she has never ceased to be a victim for the whole family ... " (27 January 1829)