

## **Raised from death in order to make a good confession**

**15-year old Charles lay near death calling for (Saint) Don Bosco, but he was away, so his parents called another priest to hear his confession. Afterwards Charles continued to call for Don Bosco. When the saint returned to Turin he was informed of Charles' death and hurried to his home. Upon arrival he learned the boy had died 10-11 hours earlier and that the doctor had signed the death certificate. Don Bosco insisted the boy was "just asleep". Everyone was sent away except Charles' mother and aunt. The body lay there enshrouded, sewn into a sheet—ready for burial. Don Bosco prayed for a moment, and cried out, "Charles! Rise!"**

**The body of the boy began to move and the sheet was torn away from his body. He asked his mother why he was dressed in the torn shroud. He then greeted Don Bosco happily and thankfully.**

**The boy told the priest how he had needed him, that out of fear he had not told all in his last confession and that he should now be in Hell. Charles told Don Bosco how he had dreamed he was surrounded by a mob of demons who were about to throw him into the flames of a huge furnace when a beautiful Lady had intervened. She told him, "There is still hope for you, Charles! You have not been judged."**

**The boy then confessed to Don Bosco, after which he cried, "Don Bosco has saved me!" All the mourners rushed in, but few noticed that, despite the boy's liveliness, his body remained deathly cold. Don Bosco then asked the boy if he would rather go to heaven or remain on earth, to which he answered, "Don Bosco, I'd rather go to heaven." Charles leaned back, closed his eyes, and once again was quiet in death.**