

Annex 1

Presentation Dynamics "Getting closer to the First Sisters Adorers"

Dear Sisters and brothers in this Annex 1, we present a File of our first Adorer Sisters. There may be some data error, because the sources themselves differ.

1



- **Maiden Name:** Mariana Joaquina Anchoriz Sagaseta.
- **Religious Name:** Sr. INOCENTA.

Sr. Inocenta was born in August, 1825, in Tarazona (Zaragoza), Spain. She arrived at the house on July 28, 1853 at the age of 27, accompanied by her father. He brought her to the Convent for the defamation as revenge that her boyfriend generated in the town, against her daughter by not being accepted as her future husband. At 2 (two) years old, her family convinced that their daughter was innocent, they go to look for her at the Convent, but she decides to stay.

Mariana, "pidió consentimiento a su padre para ser religiosa en el Colegio".

¡Camino de Dios! Insospechados, difíciles, dolorosos... pero seguros (Cf. Vázquez, María: "Historia del Instituto de Adoratrices Esclavas del Smo. Sto y de la Caridad, VI - 1845-1865, Madrid).

She received the religious habit and made the simple vows of Poverty, Chastity and obedience on January 1, 1857.

She occupied the post of a Helper in the Centre. She was with uncommon beauty and education, had fine and innocent habits, fervent, reserved and humble. She lived exclusively consecrated to the education of the inmates in the Centre without ever separating herself from them, neither by day or at night, with such extreme zeal for the salvation of their souls that in order to obtain it she did not excuse any means or sacrifice however costly it was.

She was always in charge of the group of Philomenas and she had them so well they seemed fine ladies, attentive, cautious and with very good spirit. She was very mortified in everything and used to observe the rules with perfection even in the smallest things. All the girls in the Centre loved her very much. Her whole life was a continuous sacrifice, deserving the esteem of all for her exemplary conduct, zeal for the salvation of souls and the constant practice of virtues.

Her disease, as certified by the doctor, was a consumption of tuberculosis. She made everyone admire with her patience and conformity in the midst of the most severe suffering and much more in her death. She had great fervour and ardent desire to die consecrated perpetually to God through the sacred vows; she asked for them with much eagerness and it was granted to her.

She was moved only by the desire of pleasing God and to serve Him in His poor and also deserving to be the first Sister Adorer who, as we can hope, entered the eternal mansions of the glory and began to form the choir of the daughters of the new Foundress who remained toiling on earth.

She died on February 19, 1858, in the Novitiate House of Madrid, at the age of 31 years, and 6 years of Religious life. Her body was transferred to the cemetery of the parish of San Sebastian outside the Puerta de Toledo.



- **Maiden Name:** Margarita García Casas (Lorenza).
- **Religious Name:** Sr. MARIA DEL CARMEN.

Sr María Del Carmen was born 10 August, 1818, in Villamanrique del Tajo, Madrid, Spain. She entered the Centre on November 14, 1853 at the age of 35, and Mother Sacramento gave her the name Lorenza. When Lorenza took the religious habit she changed her name to María del Carmen. She was trained teacher who owned a school for young ladies. She was the daughter of an Administrator of Post office. On 6 January 1860 she made her religious vows. She helped Mother Sacramento with her skills and more importantly with her great and solid virtues. She was so humble that she edified everyone.

She was kind, fervent and with refined manners. She was the first one who associated herself to our Mother Foundress in order to assist her in the holy venture of saving souls. She lived so united to the Centre that neither by day nor at night she separated herself from the girls, who loved her as a Mother.

From the House of Zaragoza in 1859 she was transferred to Valencia, and from there in 1861 to Barcelona when this Foundation was opened, remaining in it until the death of Sr Caridad. She was called to Madrid to occupy the post of Novice Mistress, a responsibility she still held, when the death of our Mother Foundress occurred.

In 1869, she was made Superior in the House of Madrid. One day she went for baths to Santander. A fire broke out in the House because of an explosion of a gas tin that was left neglected on the terrace. The heat was such on that day that as soon as the sun began to beat, it became inflamed producing a very frightful fire; it was a miracle that the entire House did not burn and even the adjacent ones.

Luckily it could be put out without causing great damages, but as it presented much danger, it was necessary to transfer the entire Centre and part of the Community to the Hospital of the Incurables that was in front, where the Sisters of Charity accommodated them very warmly. With this great disaster, Sr Lorenza was so shocked that she became senseless. Thanks be to God she recovered and could carry out two or three more years the responsibility of Novice Mistress. However, she had a relapse and suffered much from scruples, particularly the last two years of her life, losing almost completely her sense.

Finally, being in the House of Valencia, where she had been transferred, to try if that suited her better, she had an attack of apoplexy remaining several hours as dead; however, she recovered and could receive the Holy Sacraments in full consciousness, as if she had never lost it, and making acts of contrition and love of God, she died as holy as she had lived on December 22, 1877 at the age of 64 and 24 years in Religious life.



- **Maiden Name:** Antonia Eguiluz y Zubieta
- **Religious Name:** Sr. MARIA DEL CAMINO.

Sr María del Camino was a native of Pamplona, Spain, 22 years old spinster. She entered the 'House of our Lady of the Forsaken' on 11 February 1855.

She was to carry out the post of Assistant and makes her first profession 1 January 1859 and took the name she possessed many virtues. She wore for the first time the habit of Sisters Adorers on January 1, 1857.

She was meek, gentle, kind, of great ascendancy on the inmates in the Centre and of great zeal for their salvation that she did not spare efforts and sacrifices even that of her life that it can be said rightly that it was this that took her so young to the tomb; because as it was the beginning of the Institute, there were no people called by God to form them and to save them, nor anyone to replace her in this laborious task and she gave herself so completely to it that she did not spare any effort nor sacrifice even that of her life, which was short but rich in merits.

During her illness she gave repeated examples of her purified virtue and more so in the days close to her death that all her words came out inflamed in the love of God that consumed her spirit and revealed a purity of conscience and conformity with the will of God worthy of all praise. She received with much fervour the holy sacraments and died in the osculation of the Lord. She died in the House of Madrid on 3rd August 1860 at the age of 27.

Her body was buried in the cemetery of San Sebastian outside the door of Toledo in closed coffin whose key is conserved in her file.



- **Maiden Name:** Ana López Ballesteros y Pérez.
- **Religious Name:** Sr. CARIDAD.

Ana López Ballesteros y Pérez was born in Madrid, Spain, on 27 July 1824. She was the daughter of His Excellency, Don Luis López Ballesteros, Minister of State in the Kingdom of Fernando VII, and of Mrs. Josefa Pérez Santamarina. She was admitted to the Congregation on 3rd February, 1856, at the age of 32 and makes her first profession on the 1st January 1857 and gave Micaela gave her the post of a Vice Superior.

She was a friend of Micaela and also a directee of Fr. Carasa. Prompted by his desire she was given the name of Sr Caridad. Mother Sacramento remembers her in her Autobiography as follows: "Sr Caridad was a great help, God sent me; a consolation and model at the same time. She was the combination of rare virtues, brought together in a young lady who was beautiful with an elegant figure and refined manners, talented and with superb shrewdness. She was educated, neat, obedient and humble. She was the solace and refuge of everyone in the community. She had great respect and affection for me.... I appointed her as my admonisher and she used to inform me **"my faults"**. One of the sisters said, **"Everything I saw in her and heard was holiness and perfection. She was a perfect model of all the virtues"**.

She loved her Mother Superior so much and also her sisters in Jesus Christ. Affectionate, amiable and attentive to their least needs, it seems as if she lived only to alleviate them and to serve them; she did not know how to think ill of anyone, rather, on the contrary, for her all were models of perfection that should be imitated.

She carried out for a long time the responsibility of Novice Mistress with the most scrupulous exactitude and with the greatest perfection, trying to form them in the practice of the religious virtues of which she was an example and model. She had a great love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and the emerging Institute. Her greatest joy was to spend long hours before the Tabernacle, stealing some moments from her occupations, even if it is nothing more than entering the chapel and greeting Him and making an act of love, adoration, making amends.

Writing to our very Rev. Mother Foundress in an epoch when she suffered great pains, she says: **"My very dear Mother, blessed be God a thousand times, who being so good continues permitting that we suffer something for His love so that we may gain merits; it is so good that daily we may have a little to offer Him, that in it we find not only peace but also a joy. And how sweet! Thanks be to God that your Reverence is accustomed to suffering. I am with you, my Mother, even more through suffering although at times it appears that the heart remains wounded (momentarily), but later on, God helps and one goes ahead"**.

On July 30, 1863, Sr Caridad died in our house of Barcelona, at the age of 38 and 7 years of Religious life.



- **Maiden Name:** Concepción Albuerne y Dolz de Espejo.
- **Religious Name:** Sr. JUANA DE DIOS.

Sr. Juana de Dios was born in Madrid Spain on in 1796. She is the only daughter of the Marquises of Albuerne and entered the College on March 30, 1856 at the age of 60.

She makes her profession privately and took the name Juana of God. "She volunteered to go as Superior to the house of Zaragoza. It seems that her vocation was a mirage, because in August, 1866 a year after the death of the Foundress she left the Institute.



- **Maiden Name:** Baltasara Moreno y Sainz.
- **Religious Name:** Sr. MARTA.

Sr. Marta entered the Congregation on September 12, 1856, she was already 52 years old. She professed on January 1st, 1857, along with the other seven of them who had joined our very Rev. Mother Sacramento. Martha entered in 1856, and was sent to the foundation of Burgos.

Although a late vocation to the Congregation, she knew how to make good use of the time and to treasure the riches for eternity.

She was a perfect model of all the virtues and a mirror where the sisters could look at themselves. She was outstanding in obedience, submissiveness to her superiors and in mortifications, and both interior as well as exterior.

She used to make use of all possible means to collect the leftovers and crumbs of bread from others and ate them very willingly than taking a fresh piece of bread. She was very recollected and prayerful, and if possible she would have never left the chapel. The last years of her life, as she was elderly and hardly could be of help anywhere, with the permission of the Superior, she used to spend the maximum amount of time in the chapel. Her favourite prayer was the Trisagion, spending at times more than one hour to recite it once.

She died in the House of Madrid, on January 12, 1872, so saintly as she had lived, edifying everyone with her patience and endurance during the illness and having received the holy Sacraments with much fervour and devotion.

She was buried in the Sacramental de San Justo y Santa Cruz. Patio de San Justo, Gallery Tomb No. 136.



- **Maiden Name:** Julia Diez - Caneto y Lletget.
- **Religious Name:** Sr. Corazón de María.

Julia Caneto Lletget, entered in October 1856 at the age of 21. She was figured on page 11 of the Book of Personnel, she was one of the first daughters of our Mother Foundress who, knowing that she had vocation for religious life (about to be a Carmelite), invited her in order to assist her in the great mission of saving souls, expecting great help and consolation as she was very fine, educated and with good contacts.

However, as the Lord made use of everything in order to try the virtues of our Venerable Mother, He permitted that not only she (Sr Corazón de María) did not correspond to her expectations but was a permanent thorn in her heart.

Since she had been appointed Secretary and presented to the Queen, the Bishops and distinguished persons, with love and esteem, she became very proud and with the sweetness and modesty, which were very natural to her, she knew how to win over the affection of the Prelates and others pretending to triumph over the Foundress and make them doubt about the latter's virtues.

Privileged in religion, as she had been before entering the Congregation, and with the support of her family, she was adamant in her self-love that Mother should recognise her own pretensions and returned rudeness and reserve to her affectionate attentions; she had a character which was sweet to everyone else and rude and impolite towards Mother Sacramento to the extent that hardly she spoke a word to her during the journeys.

The successor of our Venerable Mother had her for a while as Secretary and, convinced that it was not suiting to her character, she was deprived of all important responsibilities.

She continued in this manner for some time, which made her recognise her own bad behaviour, she admitted her own weaknesses and for the rest of her life she was a faithful witness of the wonders of Mother Sacramento, loving the Congregation, submissive to the superiors, cheerful and affectionate with the Community, faithfully fulfilling her duties and very prompt in obeying; she was a consolation for the Superiors, in the different responsibilities entrusted to her illness, which was chronic pneumonia, became worse and during the last 2 years of her life she hardly left the infirmary.

She received in full consciousness the Holy Sacraments and other spiritual assistance and on Sunday, July 7, 1901, the Feast of the Precious Blood (of which she was a great devotee), at 8.15 am she breathed her last, surrounded by the sisters who were imploring for her the assistance from God, from the Blessed Virgin Mary and Mother Sacramento.

Sr. Corazón de María died in the House of Valencia. At her death she was 66 years old and 44 of religious profession. She was the great testimony to declare in the process of Mother Sacramento's beatification. The first conversion and was a witness.

7



8

- **Maiden Name:** Paula Elola y De Miguel.
- **Religious Name:** Sr. CORAZON OF JESUS.

Sr. Corazon of Jesus was born in the year 1818 in Spain. She entered the Institute on 30 october 1856 at the age of 38. She receives her profession privately on 1 november 1856.

She was very prayerful, hardworking and sacrificing.

Mother Sacramento appoints her as the Superior of the house of Valencia. After a year and a half on 15 december 1859 she left the Institute.

165 *“Look at the origins to revitalize the future”.*

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