

Biography



Carmen is born in Ólvega (Soria) on November 24, 1930. She lived her childhood in Tudela (Navarra).

Since she was a child, she felt the missionary vocation under the influence of the spirit of St. Francis Xavier.

She studied Chemistry at the University of Madrid.

She rekindled her missionary vocation in Javier (Navarra), Spain, at the "Instituto Misioneras de Cristo Jesus".

(Navarra), in the "Instituto de Misioneras de Cristo Jesús" and studied Religious Sciences in Valencia.

In 1964 she met Kiko Argüello in the slums of Palomeras Altas in Madrid and after living among the poor, they started the Neocatechumenal Way, giving her life in this mission for more than 50 years all over the world.

She had an immense love for Jesus Christ, the Church, Our Lady, the Pope, the Liturgy and the Sacraments, Sacred Scripture and the Sacred Scriptures and to the Hebrew roots of Christianity.

She died in Madrid on July 19, 2016.

Prayer for Private Devotion

To ask for graces and favors through the intercession of Carmen Hernández.

**Oh Lord,
who in choosing Carmen Hernández
as co-initiator of the Neocatechumenal Way,
granted her a great love for Jesus Christ and
the Church,
for Holy Scripture and for liturgical prayer,
a burning zeal for the itinerant announcemet
of the Gospel
and fidelity to you in the trials of the cross;
grant that I, through her intercession,
may be faithful to the baptism I have
received
and, if it is your will, grant also the grace I
ask of you.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory be.

In conformity with the decrees of Pope Urban VIII, there is no
intention of
anticipating in any way the authoritative judgment of the Church.
WITH ECCLESIASTICAL APPROVAL

Carmen Hernández Barrera
(1930-2016)



BARCELONA (1962-1964)

Carmen arrived in Barcelona on January 11, 1962 from London, where the superiors of the Institute of the Missionary Sisters of Christ Jesus - to which she had belonged since 1953 - sent her to learn English, in view of a possible destination in India. She thought that from London she would leave for that country, but her superiors changed her mind and she suffered - as she described it as so many times - an "airplane hijacking" and instead of landing in India she found herself in Barcelona.



Calle princesa, 52. On the first floor, the house of the Missionaries

During the first eight months of 1962 in Barcelona, while her superiors were deciding on her admission to perpetual vows, she lived in the convent of the Missionary Sisters at 52 Princesa Street.

In Barcelona, she continued studying English and began to give classes to working women. During Lent of that year, her superiors invited Father Pedro Farnés Scherer to do a retreat for them.

The meeting with Fr. Farnés was transcendental for Carmen's life. Farnés, he gave her "as a foretaste" of the essential contents of what would become the Second Vatican Council (1963-1965): above all, the Pachal Mystery,

the axis and source of Christian life.

Carmen lived the Easter Vigil of 1962 in the cathedral of Barcelona in a particular way. She said that, for the first time, she celebrated it feeling it deeply, living in her own flesh what she was celebrating.



Fr. Pedro Farnés Scherer (2012)



Cathedral of Barcelona

Faced with her imminent departure from the Institute, Carmen found solace in visiting the Marés Museum (Cathedral Square), in particular the series of Romanesque crucifixes representing Christ crucified with the wounds of the Passion and at the same time reigning on the Cross.



Carmen in the Marés Museum (the photo is after 1962)



Room of the Crucifixes, Marés Museum

On August 28, 1962, she had to leave the convent because she was not admitted to perpetual vows. Two months later she went to live in two very humble neighborhoods of Barcelona: Trinidad Nueva and Casas Baratas "Eduardo Aunós" (Tragura Street), next to Montjuic (now demolished). During this time, she worked in several factories in the city.



Casas baratas "Eduardo Aunós", en el barrio de Casa Antúnez. La fecha blanca señala la vivienda de Carmen en la calle Tragura, 21.



View of Barcelona, from Tibidabo



Basílica of the Holy Familiy Barcelona