

ENCARNITA ORTEGA

Newsletter of the Office
for the Causes of Saints
Prelature of Opus Dei
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Messages that are never erased

This year 2020 marks **a hundred years since the birth of Encarnita**. Pilar, a friend of hers who knew her very well, commented that, although Encarnita instinctively hid her age, especially as she grew older “She would have reached her older years elegantly and full of love. **She gave her life for each person.**”

It is true that this way of living for others, **forgetting about her own suffering**, helped her stay young and free from personal worries.

Her friends in Valladolid planned to celebrate **her centenary on May 5**, but the pandemic restrictions made this impossible.

They made up for this through social media. **Stories about Encarnita** appeared in different ways. One of them was by Maria Jesús::

“I first met Encarnita in Valladolid. I remember that the first time I saw her it was her appearance that impressed me. She was elegant, not just in her appearance but also in her poise, and her speech. **A grand lady, yet very simple.**”

Knowing her was a great incentive to action for me, in many ways. She really liked my profession – I have a children’s clothes shop. **She encouraged me to work enthusiastically**, helping me see the importance of educating children from the time they are very small. Now that I am retired, I make clothes for my grandchildren, and I recall my conversations with her. In a book she wrote about fashion, Encarnita mentions me and says specifically that children nowadays have their own tastes and want to choose their outfits. This is a reality that I confirm and take into account. It gives me a good opportunity to exchange ideas with mothers and children.

Above all Encarnita, **taught me to pray. She listened to me with serenity and attention, and she infused peace.** She was a great help to me in difficult circumstances, something I will never forget.

As years passed by, and now in this world crisis brought about by the pandemic, I realize that she was able to communicate to me the importance of prayer. Encarnita’s “you, pray” penetrated my soul. All of this shows me that **I have had the chance to meet a saint, someone very natural and close**, my friend, who continues to help me now.

As time passes, one is more aware of the life-giving strength in **important messages that are never erased.**”

Publications

- Documentary (5 mins): **Who is Encarnita?**, <https://opusdei.org/en-uk/article/who-is-encarnita-ortega/> (with English subtitles).
- Documentary (21 mins): **The value of Friendship: a biography of Encarnita**, <https://opusdei.org/en-uk/article/biography-of-encarnita-ortega/> (subtitles with auto-translate)

Close company during sickness

On June 26 my sister was diagnosed with an advanced tumour in an ovary that required immediate surgery. From the first moment, **we turned to the intercession of Encarnita.**

We were able to get a surgeon and operating room right away, despite the fact that it was close to the summer holidays. **The long and difficult operation was successful**, although she had to have several sessions of chemotherapy since the tumour was malignant. The postoperative period was quick and went well.

There was a problem at the start of the chemotherapy because my sister turned out to be allergic to the preparation, which needed some modification. The treatment took several months with the necessary controls. Yesterday, after seeing the analysis and TAC carried out, the doctor discharged her, telling her she was cured. She only needs to have a weekly control for a time. **I thank God who has granted us this great favour through the intercession of Encarnita.** M.C.V.

She looks after my mother

I am sending you another favour received through the intercession of Encarnita Ortega. For the last few years, I have prayed the prayer card practically every day, asking her **to look after my widowed mother who is 93 years old**, since I don't live in her city. She is looked after by many people, my sister and I, her grandchildren, and also two people who care for her at home. A month ago, one of the two carers had to give more time, as the other was away. She took over the work cheerfully and was readily available, so there was no need to look for a third person. Moreover, this carer is the person in whom my mother has great confidence. This may seem like a small favour, but for me, it has been big. J.V.G.



Mª Jesús, friend of Encarnita, with her husband and grand-daughters.

NEWS FROM THE CAUSE

The *Positio* is being prepared

Those who obtain favours through the intercession of Encarnita Ortega are asked to notify the Prelature of Opus Dei, 4 Orme Court, London W2 4RL; e-mail: ocs.uk@opusdei.org | www.encarnitaortega.org

The Servant of God

**ENCARNITA
ORTEGA**

PRAYER

Lord, you showed your daughter Encarnita how attractive it is to seek holiness in the middle of the world and gave her the grace to follow faithfully that quest in Opus Dei. Grant that, like her, I may discover your Love afresh every day and communicate it to those around me. Deign to glorify your daughter Encarnita and, through her intercession, grant me the favour I ask of you... *(here make your petition)*. Amen.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory Be.

In conformity with the decrees of Pope Urban VIII, we declare that there is no intention of anticipating in any way the judgement of the Church, and that this prayer is not intended for public use.

This Newsletter is issued free of charge. Those who wish to contribute towards its publication costs may send donations by cheque or postal order to the address below or by direct transfer.

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