

ANNE OF JESUS (Anne de Lobera, 1545-1621)
Servant of God (D)

Anne was born at Medina del Campo (Castile) on Nov. 25, 1545, and died at Brussels on March 4, 1621. St. Teresa herself, in 1570, received Anne into the first monastery of the reform at Avila. The next year Anne went on to Salamanca, where on Oct. 22, 1571, she made her profession. The saint brought her to the foundation of Beas in Andalusia; obedience transferred her to Granada, where in 1582 she opened a monastery – the only one that St. Teresa, while alive, did not herself establish. There Anne obtained from St. John of the Cross, who called her a «seraph» and esteemed her highly, his commentary on the Spiritual Canticle, dedicated to Anne by the saint. In 1586 she founded a monastery at Madrid, where she labored much for the first edition of the works of St. Teresa (1588) and where she had to undergo the first struggle to defend the spirit of St. Teresa against the ideas of Doria and of his council. Punished for this, she later went on to Salamanca (1594), where she was elected prioress (1596).

In 1604, with Bl. Anne of St. Bartholomew and four other nuns, and guided by Peter Bérulle, she went to France, where she founded the monasteries of Paris (1604), Pontoise and Dijon (1605). Some differences with Bérulle, who seemed to give to the French Carmel an imprint that did not correspond to the Teresian ideal, plus the desire to be directed by the Discalced Carmelites, led Anne to accept the invitation of the archdukes of Belgium and to transfer to Flanders, where she founded the monasteries of Brussels, Louvain and Mons (1607). She returned to Brussels and after several years of great interior and physical sufferings died there, renowned for great holiness, which came to be corroborated by graces and miracles.

Her cause for beatification was initiated immediately after her death. When the ordinary processes had been completed, the cause was introduced in Rome on May 2, 1878. And on May 2, 1885, her writings, spiritual letters which reveal her profound interior life and extraordinary prudence, were approved.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: A. Manrique, *Vida de la ven. m. A. d. J.*, Bruxelles 1632; Berthold-Ignace de Ste-Anne, *Vie de la mitre A. d. J.*, Malines 1876-1882; S. N. D., *Life of the ven. A. of J.*, London 1932; L. Van den Bossche, *Anne de Jésus coadjutrice de Ste-Therese d'Avila*, Bruges 1958; I. Moriones, *Ana de Jesus y la herencia teresiana*, Rome 1968 (the same author had already collaborated earlier in the work *Rumor y espiritualidad en la escuela teresiana primitiva*, Burgos 1966, in which he published some *Hechos y dichos* of the Venerable, gathered from primitive sources); Emond, I pp. 197 sg.

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