CHALLENGE Internacional

STAGE 6 – TARRAGONA

Birthplace of the congregation



Message from Juan Bautista Altés

Dear pilgrims:

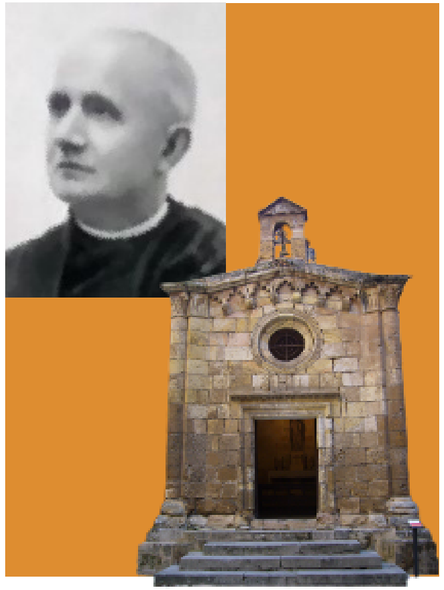
Today I write to you with special emotion, because the sixth stage of our journey takes us to Tarragona, the birthplace of the Society of Saint Teresa of Jesus. Here, in 1876, my dear friend Henry de Ossó experienced one of the most intense and decisive moments of his life. It was not an easy year: the social and political climate was complicated, faith seemed to be wavering in many hearts, and Henry felt the weight of so many needs and challenges.

But it was precisely in the midst of these difficulties that Henry, supported by Teresa Blanch and surrounded by a small group of courageous women, founded the Society of Saint Teresa on June 23, 1876. I remember well how he took care of every detail, how he went out of his way for each of the first Teresian women, encouraging them, listening to them, and dreaming of a work that would go far, much further than we could then imagine. Henry spared no effort: he wrote letters, traveled, sought support, and always found time to listen t , and accompany them, even when fatigue set in or doubts arose.

That year, Henry also experienced sleepless nights, inner struggles, and the occasional silent tear. But he never lost hope. He was clear that the true driving force behind everything was love for Jesus, in the style of Teresa of Jesus, and the desire to bring that love to education and to the hearts of families. "To educate a child is to educate a man, and to educate a woman is to educate a family," he repeated with conviction.

Today, as we arrive together in Tarragona, I want to invite you to look around you and within yourself. What dreams inspire you? What difficulties do you face? Henry teaches us that, even in the most difficult times, we can respond with creativity, faith, and a big heart.
As in every stage, I carry your name in my silver heart. May this gesture unite us in the same spirit of dedication and trust with which Henry founded his most beloved work here.

A big hug, in Teresa and Jesus.



J.B. Altés

TODAY WE ARRIVED AT...

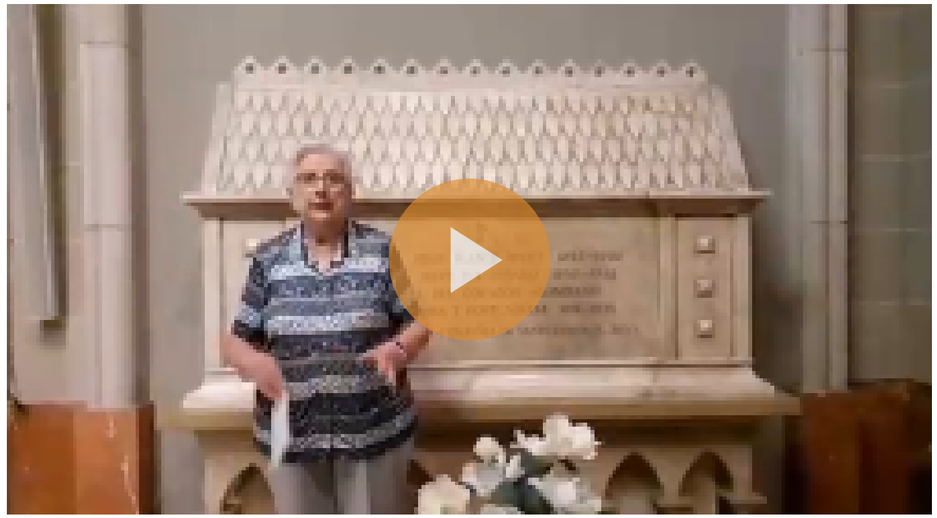
TARRAGONA



In the heart of Saint Henry

Valencian and former student, Carmen Franch is a Teresian sister with a long history of life, mission, and destinations. She has been an educator and for many years has served in government in different areas. Before retiring, she was able to go on missions to Africa for a time.

She currently lives in Jesús-Tortosa, in the House of Spirituality. She is a happy and grateful retiree, living alongside Henry de Ossó and older sisters. With her, we enter into the first group of sisters who said yes to Jesus in the Society of Saint Teresa of Jesus.



Charismatic keys of yesterday... and today

Beatriz Herrera Agudelo Stj, Colombian Teresian sister. She is currently studying accompaniment in daily life in Spain. She has been a formator at different stages in the Society of Saint Teresa of Jesus. Accompanist and itinerant.

Today Bea will help us to deepen our understanding of the meaning of formation for Henry de Ossó and for us today, how it has been a charismatic key throughout these 150 years of life.



Prayerful proposal

STEP 1. PREPARATION

- Be silent inside for a few seconds and become aware of God's presence here and now. He does not appear suddenly, but He is always there, He always remains, He always precedes us.
- Say this prayer

Father full of mercy,
I know that You love me very much.
You are present everywhere,
that you are here, within me,
seeing my most hidden
thoughts and feelings.

I ask for your grace
make this time of prayer,
open me to your presence,
to know myself and know you.
Reveal to me who I am and
what you want from me,
so that I may always love you and
make you known and loved by all.

Make me, like Saint Teresa of Jesus
and Saint Henry de Ossó
I commit myself to you
in building the Kingdom.
Amen.

Prayerful proposal

STEP 2. CONTEMPLATE MARY, THE EDUCATOR

Spend a few minutes with Mary, the mother of Jesus, in her role as mother and educator.







Prayerful proposal

STEP 3. PRAYERFUL READING

Read the following text from the Constitutions of the Society of Saint Teresa calmly and let it resonate within you:

> Since the origins of the Society, formation has been one of the treasures that have been cared for to help us live our vocation. We understand formation "as a process that encompasses all dimensions of our life," and in which "the experience of God lived from our charism is the integrating core of the formation process" (Const. 66.67).
>
> We conceive of formation as dynamic and ongoing; "the whole of life becomes a field of formation if we take it up from a formative perspective and welcome God's work in us, in history, and in the world" (Const. 69).
>
> The formation journey encompasses all stages of life and accompanies our being as consecrated women in apostolic life. Therefore, the process of personal growth is joined by the necessary updating to respond to the mission entrusted to us.
>
> The formation process helps us to live our lives as disciples of Jesus in order to participate in his mission and destiny.

Prayerful proposal

STEP 4. FINAL SONG



STAGE 6 – TARRAGONA
Birthplace of the congregation



Enigma Challenge

Throughout this Teresian route, you will receive a series of clues that will lead you to the enigma of this Challenge.

To solve it, you must first find a contemporary of Saint Henry de Ossó.

CLUE OF THE DAY

Henry told me about the professional training itinerary of the first sisters, and I shared it and also made it known to those who were closely following this new congregation.



Stamp for the next stage

Answer the following quiz in order to obtain the stamp for your credential so that you can sleep in the hostel and continue on to the next place.

1. In which city and key year was the Society of Saint Teresa of Jesus founded, according to the message from Juan Bautista Altés?

a) Valencia, in 1876.
b) Tarragona, June 23, 1876.
c) Jesús-Tortosa, in 1876.
d) Tarragona, in 1867.

2. Which of the following phrases did Henry de Ossó repeat, summarizing his conviction about the scope of education, according to the text?

a) "The true driving force behind everything was love for Jesus."
b) "To educate a child is to educate a man, and to educate a woman is to educate a family."
c) "Life itself becomes a place of learning if we approach it from an educational perspective."
d) "I carry your name in my silver heart."

3. According to the excerpt from the Constitutions (Const. 66.67), what is conceived as the "integrating core of the formative process" in the Society?

a) The formation itinerary that encompasses all stages of life.
b) The process of personal growth and the necessary updating.
c) The h y experience of God lived out from our charism.
d) Formation conceived in a dynamic and ongoing way.

4. What does the text say about formation in the Society of Saint Teresa of Jesus?

a) It focuses solely on the initial stage of consecrated life.
b) It encompasses all stages of life
c) It is a treasure that has been neglected throughout the 150 years of Society's existence.
d) It is the main objective of the novices, but then takes a back seat.

5. Who accompanied the first Spiritual Exercises of the first Teresian sisters?

a) Father Henry.
b) A lay cousin of Henry who had studied Theology in Salamanca.
c) The Bishop of Tarragona.
d) The papal nuncio.



Stamp for the next stage

Answer the following quiz in order to obtain the stamp for your credential so that you can sleep in the hostel and continue on to the next place.

1. In which city and key year was the Society of Saint Teresa of Jesus founded, according to the message from Juan Bautista Altés?

a) Valencia, in 1876.
b) Tarragona, June 23, 1876.
c) Jesús-Tortosa, in 1876.
d) Tarragona, in 1867.

2. Which of the following phrases did Henry de Ossó repeat, summarizing his conviction about the scope of education, according to the text?

a) "The true driving force behind everything was love for Jesus."
b) "To educate a child is to educate a man, and to educate a woman is to educate a family."
c) "Life itself becomes a place of learning if we approach it from an educational perspective."
d) "I carry your name in my silver heart."

3. According to the excerpt from the Constitutions (Const. 66.67), what is conceived as the "integrating core of the formative process" in the Society?

a) The formation itinerary that encompasses all stages of life.
b) The process of personal growth and the necessary updating.
c) The h y experience of God lived out from our charism.
d) Formation conceived in a dynamic and ongoing way.

4. What does the text say about formation in the Society of Saint Teresa of Jesus?

a) It focuses solely on the initial stage of consecrated life.
b) It encompasses all stages of life
c) It is a treasure that has been neglected throughout the 150 years of Society's existence.
d) It is the main objective of the novices, but then takes a back seat.

5. Who accompanied the first Spiritual Exercises of the first Teresian sisters?

a) Father Henry.
b) A lay cousin of Henry who had studied Theology in Salamanca.
c) The Bishop of Tarragona.
d) The papal nuncio.

We'll accompany you on this journey!

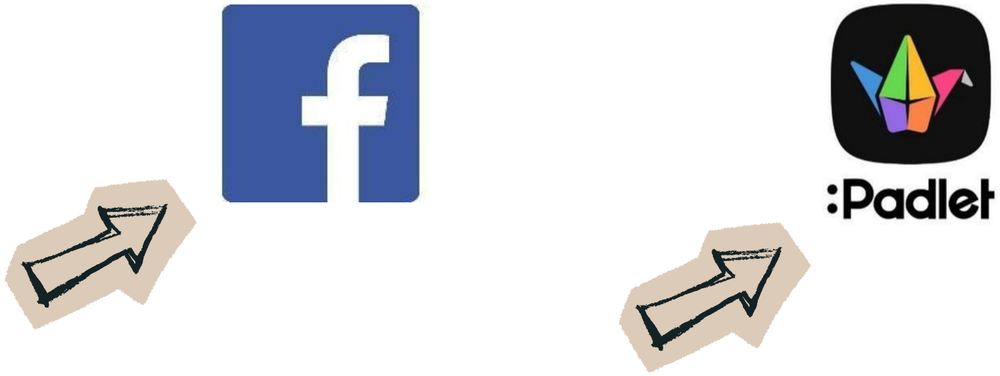
- Would you like a Teresian sister to accompany you on this journey through the places of Saint Enrique de Ossó in writing (email, Whatsó…) or through a conversation (telephone/online) to share what this itinerary is generating in you?

- Sharing life multiplies life and deepens the experience. Simply write here to request it:

osso.challenge@stjteresianas.org



Share with other pilgrims Challenge



Extra material for the highly motivated

HOW ABOUT LEARNING ABOUT HISTORY? ROMAN TARRAGONA

Roman Tarragona



Extra material for the highly motivated

TRAINING TEST

The Teresian Sisters understand that there are major themes that run through the training process, guiding and strengthening it throughout all stages; they offer criteria for discernment and become benchmarks for the progress, regression, or blockage of this process.
So... let's take an AI-generated test to see how we're doing in terms of educational curiosity!

1. **I feel that the Word of God challenges and transforms me.**
2. **The teachings of Teresa of Jesus and Henry de Ossó (or other saints or deeply spiritual people) inspire my formation.**
3. **I try to live the "being" and "doing" in my educational evangelizing mission.**
4. **I seek to discern the voice of the Spirit in my life and decisions.**
5. **I conceive of the Church as communion and fraternity, open to all.**
6. **I analyze social, economic, and cultural reality as part of my faith.**
7. **I live and promote a preferential option for the poor and justice.**
8. **I embrace and respect interculturality and interreligious dialogue.**
9. **I promote equity and gender perspective in my relationships.**
10. **The Word of God constantly guides my formative life.**

Extra material for the highly motivated

11. **I frequently reflect on the insights of Teresa of Jesus and Henry de Ossó (or other saints or deeply spiritual people).**
12. **My education is guided both by prayer and by an educational perspective.**
13. **I strive to discover the Spirit in everyday life.**
14. **I understand and experience the Church as a home and workshop for all the baptized.**
15. **I act with a critical awareness of current social dynamics.**
16. **My commitment to the poor is visible and constant.**
17. **I seek equal relationships between different cultures and religions.**
18. **I can recognize justice and reconciliation in my daily life.**
19. **Faith, hope, and love sustain me in adversity.**
20. **I consider it essential to continue my ongoing education.**

RESULTS ACCORDING TO TOTAL SCORE (0 TO 100)

Points	Level and interpretation
0-20	Very low: Level of interest in training barely present. Suggests beginning a path of training and openness to the proposed dimensions.
21-40	Low: Incipient concern. It is necessary to strengthen reflection on faith, educational mission, and commitment to reality.
41-55	Medium-low: Some elements are present, but integration and continuity are lacking. Be motivated to deepen your personal and community life.
56-70	Medium: There are solid foundations, but you can still grow in openness, creativity, and commitment to evangelical and pedagogical values.
71-80	Above average: Significant and authentic concern is evident, with a good balance between faith, reflection, and social commitment.
81-90	High: You demonstrate a high level of formation, discernment, and evangelical coherence in different areas of life.
91-100	Very high: Excellent level of formative concern, marked by a constant search for spiritual, social, and educational renewal.

Extra material for the highly motivated

TO CONTINUE DEEPENING YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF ST. HENRY

HERE IS A LIBRARY



Extra material for the highly motivated

SAINT HENRY DE OSSÓ AS A WRITER

BALDOMERO JIMÉNEZ DUQUE



150

CHALLENGE
Internacional

PARTICIPATE

Ossó Challenge