

## Esperanza Bautista Parejo

**Esperanza Bautista Parejo** left us on December 20, 2016, after five days at hospital. Since Ignacio's death, her husband, with whom she was very close, she had her eyes fixed on heaven, where they are now united again in the embrace of God.

Esperanza holds a degree in Law (UCM), a degree in Theology (UPC) and a Master's Degree in Bioethics (UPC), a Diploma in a Course on «L'Influence des Communautés Européennes sur le Droit International Privé des États Membres», Institut Universitaire International Luxembourg, (Center Internationale d'Études Juridiques et de Droit Comparé).

She had practiced law (ex officio, and private), which she abandoned in favour of teaching. She was a professor at the Universidad Pontificia de Comillas and at EFETA, [the School of Feminist Theology of Andalusia] (History of Feminist Theology and Mariology). She organized various seminars and participated in numerous courses and conferences on Feminist Theology, Feminism, Ecumenism and Ethics, in which she always left a good memory, due to her academic level and dedication to her students. Her legal knowledge helped her to interpret many elements of theology and the history of women in the early Church.

Member of the Women's Studies Forum (WEF) and the Ecumenical Forum of European Christian Women (EFECW). Founder and member of the Association of Spanish Theologians (ATE). Member of the European Society of Women in Theological Research (ESWTR) of which she was a contact woman for Spain until 2011. She was also a member of the "José de Acosta" Interdisciplinary Association (ASINJA) and the (EFETA).



Just having a look at the last years, we remember her Conferences and Seminars in:

- La Universidad de Leuven (Bélgica), Conferencia-Seminario sobre "La igualdad de género en el trabajo y en la teología" (Mayo, 2010).
- Gerona y Barcelona (Col·lectiu de Dones en l'Església per la Paritat), conferencias sobre "La Mujer y el Vaticano II. Esperanzas y desencuentros". (Mayo, 2012).
- Zaragoza, curso sobre *Mariología* y conferencia con el título "¿Quién es esa mujer?" (2015).
- Madrid, participación en las XII Jornadas de la ATE, en el espacio de "Memoria resistente" (Noviembre 2014).

Some of her publications and collaborations in various books and magazines are:

- *La mujer en la Iglesia Primitiva* (Verbo Divino 1993),

- *"Modelos de mujer en la carta apostólica Mulieris Dignitatem"*, en *La Mujer en la Iglesia* (Popular 1991);
- *"Dios"* en *10 Mujeres escriben Teología*, Dir. Mercedes Navarro (Verbo Divino 1993);
- *"Cuerpo y comunidad"*, en *Para comprender el cuerpo de la mujer. Una perspectiva Bíblica y Ética*, Dir. Mercedes Navarro (Verbo Divino 1996);
- *"Espiritualidad-sexualidad, un dualismo a superar"*, en *Filosofía contemporánea y cristianismo: Dios, Hombre y Praxis* (Diálogo Filosófico 1998):
- *"Género y Eclesiología"* en *Cambio de paradigma, género y ecclesiología*, Dir. Carmen Bernabé (Verbo Divino 1998);
- *"Mujer y Democracia en España: Evolución jurídica y realidad social"*, *Documentación Social*, Revista de Estudios sociales y de sociología aplicada, nº 105 (1996);
- *"Femmes en Espagne: Réalité Social et Réalité Theologique"*, *Yearbook of the European Society of Women in Theological Research*, 5 (1997);
- *"El culto de María en la Liturgia de la Iglesia y en la religiosidad popular"*, en *María, mujer mediterránea*, Dir. Isabel Gómez-Acebo (Desclée de Brouwer 1999);
- *"El ecumenismo y la Teología feminista"*, en *Mujeres, Diálogo y Religiones*, Dir. M<sup>a</sup> José Arana (Desclée de Brouwer 1999);
- *"Aproximación al estudio del hecho religioso"* Verbo Divino (2002)
- *"Reciprocidad, responsabilidad y justicia"*, en *10 Palabras Clave sobre la Violencia de Género*, Dir. Esperanza Bautista (Verbo Divino 2004);
- *"La "sacralidad" de la familia y la violencia doméstica"*, en *10 Palabras Clave sobre la Violencia de Género*, (Verbo Divino 2004);
- *"Hans Jonas y la responsabilidad constitutiva: dignidad de la naturaleza y dignidad del ser humano"* en *Bioética: La cuestión de la dignidad* (Publicaciones de la Universidad Pontificia Comillas 2004);
- *"La Nueva Era: añoranza de una nueva espiritualidad y anhelo de lo divino"*, en *Umbral, Imago, Veritas* (Publicaciones de la Universidad Pontificia Comillas);
- *"Las iglesias domésticas y los collegias romanos"*, en *La Mujer en los orígenes del cristianismo*, Dir. Isabel Gómez-Acebo (Desclée de Brouwer 2005).
- *En búsqueda de la justicia perdida* en *Resistencia y creatividad, Ayer, hoy y mañana de las teologías feministas*, Carmen Pico (ed.) (Verbo Divino, 2015)
- *"Virtuts femenines i ètiques de la cura"* en *Fets i Paraules de Dones*, n. 75, 2016.

The list is not complete, because there are some titles missing, conferences, congresses, seminars ... through which she manifested her pioneering activity in feminist theology inside and outside our borders.

For all that, what she did and what she was, the feminist theology of Spain and the theologians owe much to Esperanza Bautista.

We are very grateful to her good work, to her initiatives and projects, when there was still nothing really organized in this country. The colleagues of her time are grateful to have participated with her in the beginning. And the young theologians are grateful for their impulse, their support and their company in the continuity of their theological legacy.

Thank you, Esperanza, because you were a good woman, intelligent, cultured and an excellent friend.

Madrid, January 2017.  
Mercedes Navarro Puerto