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**Death Notice No. 4 (To all Unit Administrations):**



The Province of Spain, recommends to our fraternal prayers our dear brother, **VALENTÍN HERNÁNDEZ ROY**, priest of the La Línea de la Concepción Community, Spain, who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on January 30, 2013 in La Línea de la Concepción, Spain, at the age of 78 with 60 years of religious profession.

Father Valentín was the only child of Valentín Hernández and María Roy. He was born in Madrid on November 2, 1934.

An alumnus of the Colegio Nuestra Señora del Pilar in Madrid, he entered the Novitiate of Elorrio (Vizcaya) on August 23, 1951. He made his first profession as a Marianist religious the following year on September 12, 1952, in Elorrio (Vizcaya).

During the following years, he renewed his temporary vows and celebrated his perpetual profession in Vitoria on August 26, 1956.

In September 1952 he began his scholasticate in Carabanchel Alto (Madrid). After three years of studies, in September 1955 he was assigned to the Marianist Community of Valladolid as a teacher of the postulants. In 1957 he moved to Madrid to undertake his studies in the Exact Sciences, earning his Licentiate degree in 1958.

That same year he was assigned to Carabanchel Alto (Madrid) as Prefect of Scholastics. In a time of traditional education, he knew how to give the young Marianists a new orientation in human values: respect and closeness to persons, the sense of freedom and responsibility, teamwork and collaboration, openness to social problems, and all that without any diminution of the necessary priority of the spiritual life.

In September 1960 he was sent to Ciudad Real as a teacher. In only a short time he left fond memories among students and families. Two years later he went to Cádiz also as a teacher.

In 1963 he transferred to the Marianist Seminary in Fribourg (Switzerland), where he earned the degree of Licentiate in Theology and was ordained priest on March 17, 1967.

Upon his return to Spain, he began a long stay (1967-2004) in Cádiz. He served as a science teacher and collaborated in all the pastoral activities of the Colegio San Felipe Neri until his retirement in 2002.

Valentín was a person of great intelligence and an extraordinary teacher of mathematics. He liked this subject and explained it so well that he enchanted his students, and for many of them he was the best

teacher they ever had in their life. He taught with authority, seriousness, professionalism and a very personal dedication. All the students held him in admiration and gratitude not only for his teaching, but also for his wise counsel and his friendship. Many former students asked him to preside at their marriages.

During several years he had to care for his widowed mother, María, who was much loved and appreciated by the Marianists and was always ready to give a hand. When she was left alone in Madrid, she moved to Cádiz so as to be near her son. Valentín divided his time, fulfilling his obligations in the religious community and in school, and being with his mother, since he was her only child.

One of his favorite pastoral activities was the accompaniment of the Teams of Our Lady, which brought him close to the life of Christian couples whom he guided with his human wisdom and his religious principles. For many years he acted as counselor to several teams in the Province of Cádiz.

Upon retirement from teaching in 2002, he continued on at San Felipe Neri, sharing in the Marianist community life and in campus and family ministry. He enjoyed walking along the beautiful Cádiz beach, breathing the sea breezes and contemplating the sunsets on the Atlantic horizon.

In 2004 he received his last assignment to the Marianist Community of La Linea de la Concepción (Cádiz) as superior of the community (2004-2010) and assistant pastor of the Parish of Nuestra Señora del Carmen. A simple and humble religious who shunned awards and praises, he moved to his new assignment in the *barrio* of La Atunara in that city. Within the parish boundaries live people of lower means, traditionally committed to fishing, along with others who make their living from smuggling or drugs.

In the small Marianist community of La Linea, he did the buying and preparation of daily meals for the community, since he was an expert cook. He relaxed by listening to classical music, he enjoyed his home life and strolled along the seaside *paseo* to contemplate the Mediterranean sunrises, the Rock of Gibraltar or the coasts of Africa.

In spite of Valentín's being a calm man, his heart began to fail. In his last years he had several heart problems until in the night of January 30 he died in the Community of La Linea while watching television with the brothers. A heart attack killed him. May he continue to smile down upon us from heaven, with his counsel and his help.

May he rest in peace.