

Margarida Güell

Esperança Roca i Roca

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Esperança Roca i Roca (* 28 Feb 1844 – † 14 Jan 1924)

1. Name variants: Mary, Clara Maria de l'Esperança Carolina Roca i Roca

2. Places: Teresa, Valldonzella

3. Biography: Her full name was Clara Maria de l'Esperança Carolina Roca i Roca. She was born in Terrassa, daughter of Gaietà Roca i Barba and Margarida Roca i Amat. E. received the habit at Santa Maria de Valldonzella on 26 May 1863 and took vows on 5 Jun 1864. On 20 Feb 1867, she was appointed subcantor and secretary to the abbess. She served as secretary for 18 years. On 13 May 1874, E. was appointed novice mistress and stayed in office until being elected abbess on 19 Oct 1900. In her 24-year tenure, she strengthened the communal life. The constitutions she introduced in 1906 were written for Valldonzella but served as a prototype for other Spanish Cistercians. After the destruction of the ancient monastery in 1909, E. promoted the construction of a new one (1913–1922) following traditional Cistercian norms; she organized the community's archives and relics. E. promoted the writing of the community's history (1237–1924) within the Catalan and Spanish context.

4. Cultus:

a. Relics: –

b. Liturgical commemoration: –

c. Patronage: –

d. Attributes and tropes: –

5. Fontes: Documents are kept in the Archive of the Monastery of Santa Maria de Valldonzella.

6. Literature: L. ROGERS, *Biografía de la Rda Madre M^a de la Esperanza Roca y Roca. Abadesa del monasterio de Sta Maria de Valldonzella y compendio histórico de este monasterio, por una religiosa del mismo*, ed. R.P. JAIME PONS / S. J. CASULERAS, Barcelona 1935, 611.

7. Illustrations: –

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