Dear friend,

“Wait a little bit, daughter, and you will see great things”. These words which God used to illuminate Saint Teresa of Avila during the foundation of her second convent inspired and strengthened the faith of any and all who read them. This lesson of life, that Teresa de Cepeda y Ahumada, Doctor of the Church, gave, fits perfectly with the philosophy that various Catholic universities have used to organize the Interuniversity Congress “St. Teresa of Avila, Maestra de Vida”, which will be held between August 1st-3rd, 2015 in Avila (Spain), the city where Teresa was born 500 years ago.

The Universidad Católica Santa Teresa de Jesus de Ávila has organized this congress, along with the Universidad Católica de Valencia, the Universidad CEU San Pablo, the Universidad Abat Oliba and the Universidad Cardenal Herrera, the Universidad Francisco de Vitoria and the Universidad San Jorge. The following partner institutes will also collaborate: Centro Internacional Teresiano Sanjuanista, CITES Ávila, (Spain), Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt, (Germany) Theologische Fakultät Trier (Germany), Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät der Universität Wien (Austria), and nearly 40 universities of the International Council of Universities of St. Thomas Aquinas (ICUSTA).

The main purpose of this congress is to bring the figure of St. Teresa of Avila closer to those in academia and university circles. The figure of this great mystic will be looked at from different perspectives, including, the impact St. Teresa and her writings have had and will continue to have on the New Evangelization, on our interior and daily lives and on modern society today. While examining the validity and scope of her teachings during this congress, we hope to foster a deeper understanding of her spirituality and to discover her as an example for future generations.

More than 1200 universities all over the world have been invited to this congress where experts in the figure of Santa Teresa and relevant intellectuals from the five continents, philosophers and theologians will be lecturers. Just to name a few of them: The president of the
Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization, Archbishop Rino Fisichella, the Superior General of the Order of Discalced Carmelites, Fr Saverio Cannistrà, Fr. Steven Payne, a member of the Carmelite Institute in Washington; and the author, print and broadcast journalist, doctor honoris causa, Mrs. Colleen Carroll Campbell. Furthermore, the undersecretary of the Pontifical Council for Culture, Msgr. Melchor Sánchez de Toca y Alameda, Ms. Claire Marie Stubbemann (Germany), Fr. Carlos Maria Galli (Argentina), Dr. Marie Isabelle Alvira (France), P. Antonio Mas Arrondo (Spain) and Dr. Marianne Schlosser (Austria).

If you are interested in participating in this congress, please let us know. As the date of the congress approaches, we will be sending you more detailed information. Looking forward to hearing from you, we remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Mª Rosario Sáez Yuguero
Rectora Universidad Católica de Ávila
Presidenta del Comité Organizador.

Secretaría del Congreso: C/ Canteros s/n. info@congresosantateresa2015.es