



Society of Mary - Compañía de María - Société de Marie
Via Latina 22, 00179 Roma



September 1st, 2026

Biography of Death Notice N. 10

The Province of Spain entrusts to our fraternal prayers our dear brother **Vicente Carlos DE LA VEGA GARCÍA**, priest, of the Marianist Community of Santa María del Pilar in Madrid, Spain, who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 23, 2026 in Madrid, Spain, at the age of 90 and with 72 years of religious profession.

Vicente was born in Segovia on November 4, 1935, a few months before the outbreak of the civil war in Spain. He was the third of the six children of Tomás de la Vega and Carmen García. Older than Vicente were Tomás (also a Marianist priest, who died a few years ago) and Carmen (a religious sister, who died last year), and younger Maxi, José Antonio and Ramona.

Vicente did his baccalaureate studies at the Nuestra Señora del Pilar school in Madrid and when he finished them, a few months before his 17th birthday, he asked to enter the novitiate. He was admitted and, after completing a year of

novitiate in Elorrio (Bizkaia), he professed his first vows as a Marianist religious on September 12, 1953.

During his first four years as a religious he was in the scholasticate of Carabanchel, studying science. As was the custom at that time, before finishing his degree he was sent to work as a teacher, for a year in Tetouan and for another year in Madrid, while he continued studying during the summer. After renewing his temporary vows for 4 years, in 1958 he made his perpetual profession in Vitoria. In 1959 he completed his degree in biological sciences in Madrid, with excellent grades. He was passionate about nature and enjoyed it very much, both studying and later teaching biology. He marveled at a sunset or a simple flower.

Between 1960 and 1964, he was assigned first to Valladolid and then to Cádiz, teaching science to high school students. Then he was sent to the international seminary of Fribourg (Switzerland), to complete the theological studies necessary for the priesthood. He studied theology with passion and asked to complete the specialization in pastoral theology by going for a year to the Lumen Vitae Institute in Brussels (Belgium).

He returned to Madrid in 1970, as a Marianist priest, where he remained until his death, 56 years later. For the first 14 years he lived and worked in the community of Nuestra Señora del Pilar, as a chaplain and teacher of science, especially biology. He was also a teacher of religion for many years. He was very intellectual, prepared classes very well and explained very clearly. But he was as passionate as he was demanding with the students, which caused him displeasure and disappointment on more than one occasion with those who he considered not to be interested. The most capable and hard-working students appreciated him very much and said that his excellent level of teaching allowed them to feel more than prepared for the University.

It was precisely from the University (Comillas, in Madrid) that Vicente was called on several occasions to teach specialized subjects. The superiors agreed to allow Vicente to open himself to this new complementary mission and he worked as a university professor for several years. It involved a lot of preparation and correction work, but at the same time he enjoyed it enormously and was highly appreciated.

In those years his father died, and his mother became ill, needing care. Then, Vicente asked the provincial for permission to live for a while taking care of his mother, while teaching some classes and continuing to be linked to a nearby community. The Provincial Council decided that this community would be that of Santa María del Pilar, to which he was fully incorporated once his mother died.

Vicente was in Santa María del Pilar for 42 years, from 1984 until the end. During the first 25 years he worked as chaplain and teacher at the school. Once retired, from 2009 onwards, he dedicated himself above all to the priestly ministry, as chaplain at the school and as vicar in the parish. The various parish priests with whom he collaborated over the years greatly appreciated Vincent's availability and permanent support.

In the last 25 years he specialized in the premarital formation of young couples, doing an excellent job, leaving a lasting impression and weaving an endless number of friendships that continue to this day. The same can be said of his dedication to the formation and accompaniment of catechists.

Until he was 89 years old, Vicente was in enviable health, with great mental lucidity, a good voice and excellent physical shape, to the point that he continued to use the bicycle on his daily walks in Madrid. But a year ago a tumor was detected, first in his vocal cords and then in his lung, which forced him to follow rigorous medical treatment. He had numerous former medical students who were specialists in their field, and they cared for him with great delicacy and affection during this time. However, the disease was progressing and on August 23, when he was walking holding the arm of another Marianist brother, he suffered a cardiac arrest and died immediately. When it seemed that a long and painful process of deterioration awaited him, he passed to a better life in the blink of an eye, without suffering or making others suffer.

We give heartfelt thanks for the life of our brother Vincent and pray with confidence to the Father for his eternal rest.