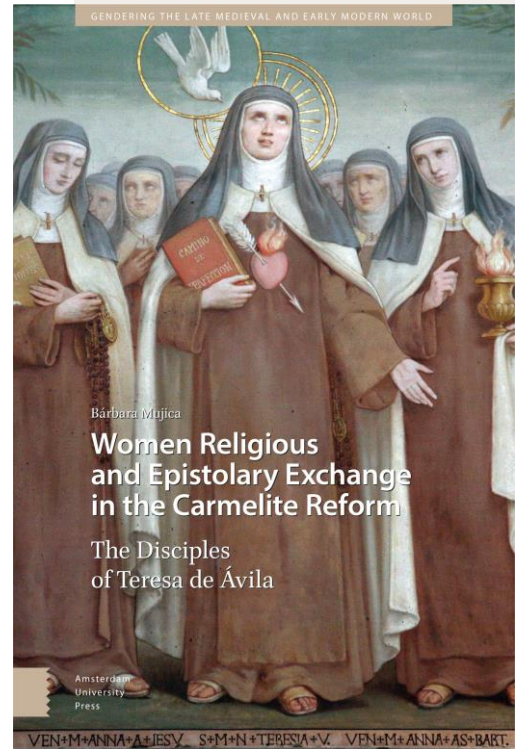


**Bárbara Mujica**

## Women Religious and Epistolary Exchange in the Carmelite Reform

*The Disciples of Teresa de Ávila*

The sixteenth century was a period of crisis in the Catholic Church. Monastic reorganization was a major issue, and women were at the forefront of charting new directions in convent policy. The story of the Carmelite Reform has been told before, but never from the perspective of the women on the front lines. Nearly all accounts of the movement focus on Teresa de Ávila, (1515-1582), and end with her death in 1582. *Women Religious and Epistolary Exchange in the Carmelite Reform: The Disciples of Teresa de Ávila* carries the story beyond Teresa's death, showing how the next generation of Carmelite nuns struggled into the seventeenth century to continue her mission. It is unique in that it draws primarily from female-authored sources, in particular, the letters of three of Teresa's most dynamic disciples: María de San José, Ana de Jesús and Ana de San Bartolomé.



**Bárbara Mujica** is a Professor Emerita of Spanish literature at Georgetown University, where she taught early modern Spanish literature with a specialization in the Spanish mystics, women's writing, and Spanish theater. She was awarded a Presidential Medal, the School of Languages and Linguistics Service Medal, and the Dean's Medal for Excellence in Teaching.

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