

San José Convent

Monument not open to the public.

Today the convent houses a small community of Franciscan Conceptionist nuns, but originally it belonged to the Carmel Reformation. Saint Teresa of Jesus was summoned by the prince and princess of Éboli and went to Pastrana together with two nuns to found the convent. On the 23rd of June 1569 the monastery of 'The Barefooted Ones' was inaugurated in the 'District of the Castellana' with the title of Nuestra Señora del Consuelo.

In 1573, with the sudden death of Ruy Gómez de Silva, Prince of Éboli, his widow Ana de Mendoza decided to join the convent, creating major conflicts with the nuns by ignoring the Carmelite Rule. Following secret instructions from Saint Teresa, the thirteen nuns who inhabited the convent at that time left under the cover of night, heading to Segovia.

With the determination that Pastrana would have a convent of nuns, the princess of Éboli offered the building to Franciscan Conceptionists and on the 19th October 1574 they founded 'Our Lady of the Conception'. The church was added in 1582, financed by the princess. It has a single nave covered with a barrel vault. The apse is semicircular and at its feet there is a great choir loft, bordered by traditional bars. The splendid baroque altarpiece was the work of Juan Bautista Mayno, a native of Pastrana.

The image on the processional float of Nuestro Padre Jesús Nazareno, highly venerated in Pastrana, is looked after by the Franciscans.