



Fourth Centenary

1614 - 2014



Prayer to St. Camillus



Camillus, faithful servant of the Lord, receptacle of a gift that could not be contained,
With courage and generosity you allowed yourself to be transformed by Love,
And, without filters or barriers, you poured it onto the sick, the marginalised and the least.

Wounded healer,
Your vulnerability and your limitations were a resource
For a love that embraces without possessing;
That welcomes without judging;
That gives without expecting a reward.

Like fire that burns, passion consumed you,
Making you a revolutionary and the creator of new pathways:
Love overcame laws and rules,
And you were sent out on the way of charity.

You created a 'new school of charity',
A model for the companions who followed in your footsteps.
With the same passion with which a mother bends over her sick only child,
They, too, cared for the sick; accompanied the dying;
Dried tears; and redeemed those who had lost their freedom.

Your charism, a luminous trail that illumines the world with vivid light,
Has for four hundred years forged people of every latitude:
That have looked to you as a model
That is unreachable and attractive, perennial and always new.

Keep us in the freshness of your message of charity,
So as to remain bent over the sick 'our Lords and masters',
Aware that charity requires feeling, intelligence and action.

Warm our hearts at the fire of mercy,
So that our work us guided by tenderness,
By respect, by welcome and by generosity.

Open our eyes so that we know how to look with sympathy at our time
And discern the needs that are concealed in the folds of society,
Ready to 'dig underground to find the poor'.

And, lastly, supported by your thousand blessings,
Make us remain faithful not only during luminous, fruitful and successful days,
But also during dark and arid days, days of failure. Amen