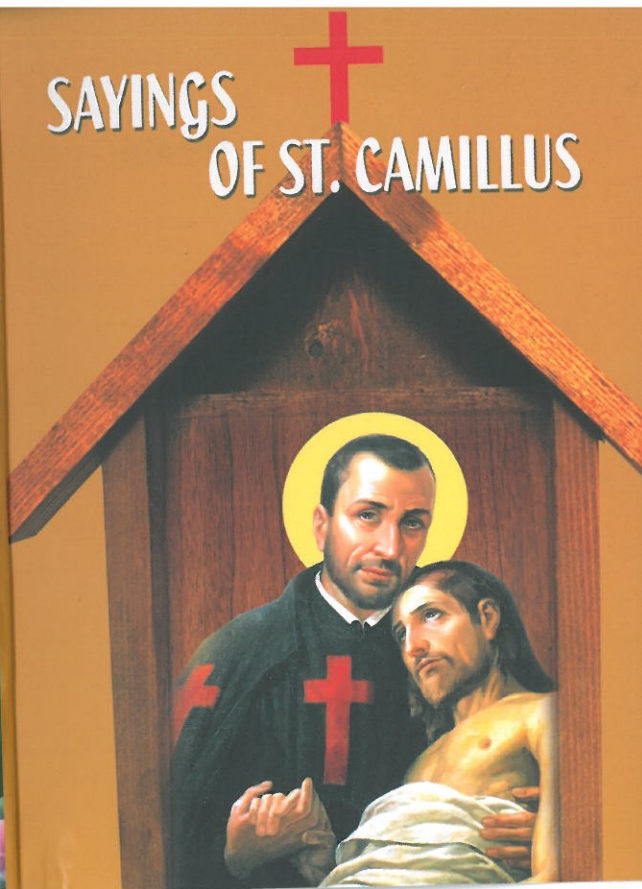


SAYINGS OF ST. CAMILLUS





"Jesus, I trust in you"

Sayings of St. Camillus de Lellis

**The Patron Saint
of the Sick, Nurses
& Hospitals**

1. We must always remember that the sick are the Lord's pupil and the heart. What we do to them, we do to the Lord.
2. The sick should be assisted, cared and loved. The sick through their suffering display God's will.
3. If I walk away, the helper does not heed the calls of the sick, even though delirious with fever, get out of the bed and fall to their death, some who are burning with thirst, have not received any water and end up guzzling down anything that is in front of them, even if the Liquid is not potable
4. The helpers in the hospital are scoundrels. They would even deprive the dead of their rights.

5. God gave the sore so that I will always have a duty towards the sick. I should be called hospital prisoner.
6. I will do all to alleviate the pain of the sick. I will turn their dark painful lives in to a helpful one.
7. We will be an Order of the saintly man. Who will help the sick we will wear a small red cross on the chest.
8. Believe what you will lend but do not tell anyone.
9. Yes a cross which is a symbol of sacrifice and red because it symbolizes Charity.
10. Please, I beg you to let me take you to the hospitals there you will be fed and cured.

11. He who dedicates himself to this cause must be dead to the worldly things. He will expiate his sins through perpetual chastity, poverty and obedience. Render constant service to the sick, especially those who are deprived of spiritual and corporal assistance.

12. If you do not do good to the poor, then God will do nothing for you in the hour of death. You will be judged like, you judged the poor.

13. Throw your bread in the river of today and you will find it in the sea of eternal life.

14. There is enough for everyone and never abandons anyone.

15. To serve the sick is my life's occupation and I enjoy it.

16. Brother I am your slave. I need to be here with you to serve.

17. I want my body covered with that wet ground that is saturated with the blood of the saintly Apostles and the many martyrs who will serve me God's forgiveness.

18. Hospitals are our silver and goldmines.

19. Hospitals are the Garden loaded with the leaves of the flowers and beds. They are the perfumed flower beds.

20. Services to the sick are pearls and joys that will crown the ministers of the sick in heaven.

21. Blessed are those who will taste this saintly liquor which is a charitable work in the Hospital.

22. Blessed are you who have the largest opportunity to serve the Sick: Surely you will earn a place in heaven.

23. Blessed are the ministers of the sick who will use their talent, live a life of self-denial and work in the vineyards of the Lord.

24. Blessed are you who will die for the poor of Our Lord Jesus Christ. You will surely earn the sight of him in eternity.

25. God knows how much I would like to remain here, hence I am not allowed to, I will then leave you my heart.

26. I die sending every one thousands of blessings, not only to the present followers, but to all followers to come. These People will be workers for this saintly cause.

27. If the grain was for me, then I wouldn't make such a fuss. But since it is for the sick in all good conscience I can't possibly serve the spoiled food.

28. The best way of being sure of eternal salvation is to practice holy charity to the poor sick.

29. Whoever serves the Sick with Charity has clear sign of Predestination.

30. Consider that the sick are the eye and heart of God, and whatever you do for the poor people you are doing for God himself.

31. Blessed and fortunate that servant of the Sick who will consume his life in this holy service with his hands dirtied in caring for them.

32. Blessed and happy those servants of the Sick who will taste this holy and heavenly drink, the Works of charity in the Hospital.

33. The Servants of the Sick cannot have greater grace from God than to die among the poor.

34. Blessed are you! Blessed are you who have such a wonderful opportunity to serve God at the bed of the Sick.

35. Blessed are you! Fathers who go into that holy vineyard of the hospital.

36. Oh blessed and happy the servants of the Sick who will know how to recognize the great good of their vocations.

37. Blessed are those who will have the holy zeal of our holy institute.

38. Blessed are you because you have been given the large portion of Charity towards the Sick. Be assured of gaining heaven.

39. Blessed are you if you shall be accompanied before the tribunal of God with a tear, a sigh, a blessing from the poor Sick.

40. My son, since you have this desire to become a religious, be comforted and be sure that God will be merciful to you and help you arrive at this goal.

41. Brother, be consistent and determined in your determination that you must become a religious. If the devil puts any other thoughts in your mind, don't listen to him at all.

42. Everyone should ask the Lord for help that he will be able to show a maternal affection toward his neighbor, so that he may serve them with all charity both in soul and in body, since we desire with the grace of God to serve all the sick with that same affection that a loving mother shows toward her only sick son.

43. Among the works of Christian Charity, we believe that none please our redeemer,

Jesus Christ more than that of helping the poor sick of Christ in their Spiritual and corporal necessities.

44. What dais more fearful than that of the judgment? Very well, on that very day the divine judge will say to you to the servants of the sick come you blessed of my father.

45. Don't think that I have any other thought in my head, than to serve the sick and the poor and to die for them, and this is my only delight, my only good.

46. My purpose is to work in the vineyard of the Lord where I find my pleasure. This is the Purpose of my existence and I have no other desire in the world.

47. The time will come when this little family will spread throughout the entire world and this

Order will help the sanctification of many people.

48. I want you to know that I would like to see you grow spiritually from day today in the order, to always please our Lord more and more, to whom we are so obligated.

49. If a servant of the Sick would work miracles but would not have love for the Order, I would not believe him at all.

50. With the practice of the works of mercy you will have a better opportunity in heaven.

51. All services and work in the house must be considered secondary to the service and ministry of the poor and the sick.

52. I consider myself more a servant of the sick, as a poor servant of Christ than these hired servants of the hospitals.

53. Blessed and fortunate that servant of the sick who will consume his life in this holy service with his hands dirtied in caring for them.

54. Cheer up, because it is with Charity that you will save both body and soul.

55. The way to heaven is the observance of the holy precepts and being far from every kind of mortal sin and also doing the works of mercy to one's neighbor.

56. Don't allow yourself to be fooled by the devil with his deceits. Make use of the good sense that our lord has given you.

57. You have lived at Rome like an Angel, but I don't know how you will live at home, see that you live in the holy fear of God.

58. Hear this Sick man's confession which is a work more pleasing to God, to cleanse his Conscience than to wash out his mouth.

59. The end of the life of a man is hidden in the mind of God; and many times, if you make predictions, you will be deceived to your own shame and mortification.

60. We all desire the grace of God to serve all the sick.

61. The hospitals are delicious gardens, pleasant paths, my vineyard, my delight.

62. My garden is the hospital of the Holy Spirit.

63. My dirty hands are the golden gloves of Charity.

64. Whoever serves the sick with Charity has the clear sign of predestination.

65. The best way of being sure of eternal salvation is to practice the holy charity to the poor Sick.

66. If anyone desires to practice the corporal and spiritual work of mercy let him know that he must be dead to all things of the world that is relative, friends, things and even himself.

67. Despise the world and everything in it.

68. What great blindness mine was that I did not know the lord earlier? Why did I not spend my entire life in serving him? Too late, my God, I have come to know you, too late! Give me a period of time to make up for infidelity.

69. Make an effort to follow the way of the holy precepts of the lord and to be a friend of the poor, for the lord earnestly desires that you help them.

70. Brother, remember to walk with the lord and seek after your own salvation, seeing to it

that other things and all other business of yours be in conformity with this, for everything else is a pure vanity.

71. Death comes soon enough and blessed are those who are well prepared, since we die only once and there is only one chance to prepare for paradise or the hell forever.

72. My son, when you go out to get some fresh air, come to the hospital here because you won't find any better air elsewhere than here, where the Holy Spirit fills up with divine grace.

73. Don't leave... because on the Day of Judgment you will have to give a strict account of those persons whom you were called to serve in the hospital, but failed to because of lack of perseverance.

(Camillus to a confessor in the Hospital)

74. The good soldier should die in war, the good sailor in the sea, and the good servant of the sick in the hospitals.

75. As soon as I set foot in the Hospital, I am healed of every Sickness.

76. Everyone would rejoice at his coming, the lame, the deaf, the dumb, the weak and other suffering poor... his arrival seemed to be like that of the angel that used to come to move the water of the probated pool.

77. Now by the grace of God I am entirely free to unite myself to God and to fill my gunny sack with good works in this hospital, and so prepare myself to die.

78. I am at Genova in my rest, this holy hospital, to my great satisfaction and spiritual delight.

79. How can I not be doing well in the hospital, being a terrestrial paradise with hope, and expectations also to come in to the Celestial one.

80. Blessed are you, brothers of mine who are going to the holy Vineyard.

81. Everyone should take care not to become a reformer or boss or corrector for the hospitals, but should rather try to teach with actions instead of words and loving toward all those who are serving in the hospitals.

82. Engulfed and drowned in all, and for all in the abyss of holy Charity.

83. Don't try to talk a great deal, nor try to suggest high or speculative thoughts, but spend part of the time in prayer... perseverance in Catholic Faith, and above all call to mind the passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

84. Throw yourself to the arms of God and to unite yourself with him, because we don't know what God will do, but what he will do, will be the best possible things for you.

85. The negligence of priests towards the Sick is the greatest drawback one can find in the Christianity.

86. Bear in mind that the demons do not sleep, that every dying person would have around him a million of them, who are trying to bring about his eternal damnation.

87. My brothers do not shrink back from suffering a little inconvenience for love of the them. This is the cross which we have to willingly carry.

88. Our work will not become well known, if not in distressing times of calamity and contagion.

89. All the members of the Society, both priests and brothers, are obligated to give help to those are stricken with pestilence.

90. Most reverend Monsignor if my poor people die of famine because of being denied this grain, I will protest and complain about it before God, and I will cite you at the tribunal of Christ, before which you will have to give a most strict account.

91. The greatest evil and the greatest infirmity that could afflict me would be that of being forced to give up the practice of Charity.

92. Be good soldiers in the militia of Christ and fight bravely.

93. May it be the will of God that I die among these poor ones. And I pray to him for this grace.

94. What I do is very little I wish I had a hundred arms in order to be able to do much more.

95. If there were no poor people in the world, it would be necessary to search for them and to dig them up from underneath the ground in order to do good to them.

96. What we have belongs to the poor, and only what we give to them will belong to us.

97. Let us trust in God now, and let us put food in to the hands of the poor so that we may then find it again in the hands of Christ in eternity.

98. I would gladly die in the middle of a street for the love of God.

99. I put my trust in the abyss of his mercy, that he will be merciful to us.

100. Try to further this service as the Lord inspires you. May the will of the Lord be done in everything.

101. May the Lord enlighten us to do his holy will in all things... Let us act according to the divine will... Let us place ourselves in the holy will of God... may the will of God be accomplished.

102. Father, I pray for you so that the Lord, if it pleases him, will prolong your life (Camillus to a dying Priest).

103. I have never looked out for myself, but only for the glory of God.

104. This is certain, that in all my actions I had no other goal than the glory of God and to help the poor.

105. You should never presume on yourself alone, but always give glory to God for everything.

106. Let us ask the Lord that this beginning may be for his everlasting glory and for the service of this plant, the Order...

107. For your part do as much as you can, and endeavor more than ever to be diligent and to give edification, and be more Zealous than ever for the glory of the Lord.

108. May the Lord always be blessed for the many graces that he continually gives us.

109. God will provide for me when it pleases him to do so.

110. May the Lord, who always allows everything for his service, be praised in all things.

111. I would like to have a thousand tongues, the ardor of St. Paul the knowledge of all the saints to make God known to all creatures... the thought that men do not love God causes me great sufferings.

112. Each one shall show that honor and respect for one another which is fitting among servants of God, each one looking upon his companions as though he were his Superior.

113. All should be careful to not to get angry at any of the others nor to show agitation. On the contrary they should show friendliness and charity as is befitting among servants of God.

114. Let no one intrude when others are speaking, unless he be invited or can presume that he is welcome...

115. Let everyone guard against talking about the actions or defects of others with any person, knowing that such talk is displeasing to God.

116. All should always maintain themselves in peace and humility of soul, interiorly loving peace, silence and fraternal union without showing any sign of impatience, always endeavoring to surpass the others in virtue and to show that respect which is fitting to the condition of each one.

117. This is what the lord desires from us, that we look for peace and union with everyone.

118. May the Lord make you a saint; let us become saints!

119. Brother, it would be better if you would come close to me, because I am tall and will

make shade for you and protect you from the sun (Camillus to a Candidate short in stature).

120. If one becomes ill, the other should care for him, taking care of him with all Charity and diligence...

121. Since I can no longer go to the hospital, I will make up for it by at least visiting these dear sick confreres of mine.

122. I myself have been a sinner, and therefore, I can at least feel sorry for sinners.

123. Pardon O Lord, this great sinner. Give at least time for true repentance and to be able to shed enough tears from these eyes of mine so as to wash away the stains and ugliness of my sins.

124. I think that it is a great miracle of divine goodness that, the Lord should pardon me, even

if he would give me a purgatory that endures until the day of Judgment.

125. Oh Lord! Lord, give me true contrition for my sins and forgive this great sinner.

126. Where humility is lacking, no other virtue is able to exist.

127. It is no little thing to have created a new Order within Holy Catholic Church, from which much fruit is expected both for the souls as well as for the bodies of our neighbors.

128. What is most surprising is that God has seen it fit to make use of me, so great a sinner, that I really merit a thousand hells.

129. In the foundation of this congregation, God has accomplished all the good, and I have accomplished all the evil, but I hope that he

will forgive me through the merits of the blood of Jesus Christ.

130. If God had not kept his hand on me, I would have been worse than all the others.

131. I am the vilest of man, and I deserve only to be despised as a sinner and monster.

132. My Lord, I confess that I have never done anything good and that I am a miserable sinner. And so, Lord, there has been nothing else for me in life except to hope in your divine mercy and your precious blood.

133. All the sins of this world are less than a drop of water in the ocean compared with the great mercy of God and the infinite merits of the blood of Jesus Christ.

134. Confession is a favor and grace of God which always helps and favors those who, for

their part, endeavor and do all they can to flee from sin.

135. I am old and I am declining. From my sore comes so much matter that with one pound every day, within a year there would be more than a barrel and a half of humor God can do miracles but believe that I will not get better.

136. Father, pray for me and make people pray for me so that I can do good during this last step of life. And this I pray you with my knees on the ground, because I have been a great sinner, gambler, man of the bad life.

137. Brother when you have made your profession and offered it to God through the holy vows immediately remember to pray for me, a miserable sinner. Pray for this monster full of defects and without spirit. Pray that the Lord grants me the grace of saving me.

138. Lord I confess that I have done nothing of god and that I am a miserable sinner, thus there remains to me only the hope of your mercy.

139. Brothers, help me. The time has come: Prayer, prayer now, so that the Lord saves me.

140. How long this day is... another physician is waiting for me... I am awaiting the call of the Lord.

141. The day will come when this small bud will spread out all over the world.

142. I exhort everyone present and future, to walk the pathway of the spirit, that is to say true religious mortification... (From the letters of St. Camillus)

143. I exhort everyone to be most faithful defenders of this holy vow of poverty and not to

allow in any way it to be altered even to a small extent, nor its purity through its deviation. (From the letters of St. Camillus)

144. He asks us that we do not bury the very valuable talent that God has placed in our hands so that we may achieve holiness in life and then in eternal glory. (From the letters of St. Camillus)

145. I exhort all present and future religious no to seek to know more than what is necessary but, rather, walk in holy simplicity in the things established in our bulls approved by the Apostolic see. (From the letters of St. Camillus)

146. How happy those ministers of the Sick who put to good use the talent God has given them which is to work in Hospitals, his holy vineyard, living a good, holy life on fire with charity and mercy towards Christ's members.

But how wretched we shall be if we just bury this talent. (From the letters of St. Camillus)

147. Peace of conscience for all through fidelity to the vows.
(From the letters of St. Camillus)

148. The great help we can give to the poor sick in their physical needs by dedicating more time to them. (From the letters of St. Camillus)

149. The contribution made to saving many hundreds of thousands of souls, and the multiplicity of Spiritual aids coming from many years spent in the service of God.

(From the letters of St. Camillus)

150. The assistance we can give to hospital workers, to help them live good lives.

151. I employ all diligence possible in reciting the divine office with attention and according to the prescribed rubrics.

152. The foundation of this little plant costs me a weight of tears and entire nights on my knees in prayer.

153. Many cannot persevere in good without the practice of prayer.

154. ...We must turn neither to the left nor to the right, but keep walking straight ahead with heart united to the creator by means of holy and continual prayer, together with holy readings of Spiritual books, with frequent sacrifices, with confession, with the despising of self, founded upon holy humility.

155. If you are content with your simplicity and continue as well as you can in the service of the poor of Jesus Christ, without pretext of wanting to appear wise or trying to become a master of the Spiritual life.

156. It is necessary to pray always and never grow tired. Woe to the religious who is content only with the mental prayer in the morning, then going for the rest of the day distracted with his mind here and there. Such a one will find his hands full of flies and wind in the evening.

157. Ah! My fathers, how good a thing it is to walk along the way taken by the mule drivers, which consists in observing the holy commandments of God and in practicing the real virtues such as Charity, humility and all the rest.

158. Piety which cuts the arms of Charity is not good.

159. We are never to doubt that we shall ever lack what is necessary, because with the grace of the Lord we shall have plenty to throw away, by doing our duty.

160. The works of Charity towards the sick are the most powerful means of converting infidels and Turks. Only to be able to see them is enough to convince them of the divine power of our holy religion.

161. This is the place of my rest for all the time. I will remain here, because I myself have decided this. Praise the Lord who has given me the grace to arrive in Rome and to leave my bones in this holy city.

162. Be mindful of the murmuring that you did along the way about the priest of God, and therefore now do your penance.

163. Everyone shall give all for the embracing of the will of God, and should totally abandon his own will, for then he will have the great gain of dying for our crucified Lord.

164. The true sign of the love of God is to serve him with fidelity and strength, and above all when the soul is not only feels oppressed from sufferings and corporal infirmity, but also dryness and deprived of every taste and spiritual consolation.

165. Yes, this is the cross my mother thought would bring ruin and destruction to my home. Instead, see how God has made it for the resurrection of many and the exaltation of his Glory. How different from man's are God's ideas.

166. Brother, if you do anything evil with delight. Delight passes and the evil remains. But, if you do something virtuous with difficulty, the difficulty passes and the virtue remains.

167. I will let myself be cut into a thousand pieces rather than commit a single venial sin knowingly and willingly.

168. I will throw myself a hundred times in to a fire and thus prefer to die than to consent to commit a single sin.

169. From the time that God enlightened me and called me to his service, I do not recall, by the grace of God, to have ever committed a serious sin nor even a venial sin.

170. The first good work that opens man to the road of paradise is to think only good.

171. The second work which opens the door of paradise is to speak well, but in order to learn to speak well, it is first of all necessary to keep silent.

172. Brothers, be vigilant in driving away temptations, opposing them with your whole heart as one would keep a red-hot iron away from living flesh. Flee all occasions of such thoughts, though tiny they may be, because what can the devil do when man knows how to be firm in repelling bad thoughts? An ass is made to drink by force when he is not thirsty, rather than try to make him consent to it. In a similar manner help yourselves, then with thoughts about the holy passion of Jesus Christ, saying to him in the inner most part of your heart: Lord, pierce my flesh with your salutary fear.

173. Resist evil thoughts, spit in the devil's face, and do not listen to him.

174. May the Lord enlighten me as to what I must do for his service and for the salvation of my soul.

175. ...One must be persuaded that whatever the superior judges as the best for the greater service and glory of God and for his own proper good.

176. The Lord has sent me this infirmity, so that I would get used to serving him without any kind of delight, but rather with great pain and corporal affliction.

177. Because I have been sold by the Lord and destined to be always had to have an iron belt around me.

178. This infirmity makes me remember at every step that I am at the cross with pierced feet, for our lord wishes me to remember that this earth is not my homeland.

179. My hands alone have been left without wounds, because, if these also would have had

wounds, I would not have been able to use them for the benefit of the poor.

180. Heaven has sent me this infirmity so that I might always be obliged to serve the sick and remain a prisoner in the hospital.

181. When we have become good and perfect masters in knowing how to suffer, we shall then know how to serve and suffer with the sick.

182. The ordinary and harmless falls have been so many that I don't remember the number, but the dangerous and serious falls have been at least thirty, always with my bad leg pinned underneath the horse. (When he falls from the horseback with wounded leg)

183. These are the good occasions that reveal the true servant of the sick. (While serving at the bedside of the dying.)

184. If thunderbolt would come down from heaven nothing could keep me from going to the hospital. (About the going to the hospital to serve the sick)

185. For the service of God and of the Order I don't care about anything.

186. Everyone should seek with all diligence to become like a wholesome perfume, which leaves its smell wherever it is placed.

187. Much modesty should be observed in sitting, not putting one foot on the top of the other, not spreading the legs too far.

188. Modesty is to be observed in lying down, without throwing one's limbs in all direction.

189. Modesty is to be observed in laughter, without opening the mouth too wide.

190. All gestures and movements should be such as to edify everyone.

191. While speaking, there should be regard for modesty and edification, both in speaking and in the manner of speaking, not extending one's hands, distorting the mouth, raising the eyebrows.

192. One's hand, if not occupied with keeping clothing in Order, are to be held still modest in manner.

193. Walking should be moderate, without hurrying too much if there is not a matter of great importance to attend to, in which case there must always be regard for decorum.

194. Clothing is to be clean and in good Order as becomes religious.

195. The lips are neither to be too tightly closed or too far apart. The Countenance should mirror happiness and joy, rather than sadness or disordinate affection.

196. Lines on the brow are to be avoided, so that inward serenity shall be outwardly apparent.

197. One is not to turn the head back and forth in a light manner, but it shall be done always with dignity with gravity. One's head should be upright and not inclined to the left or to the right, but slightly inclined ahead.

198. Those who are sensual and of poor spirit and poorly mortified will be the ruin of the Order.

199. I exhort all present and future religious to walk along the way of the Spirit and of true religious mortification. For, we desire to be sure of our salvation, since our Order is such as to

require perfect men to do the will of God and to arrive at perfection and holiness.

200. Everyone shall take special care to guard with all diligence all the door of the senses, such as, to listen and to speak. All shall avoid every disorder, endeavoring to edify in all things.

201. Interior and exterior temperance and modesty is to be observed in eating.

202. Modesty and mortification are to be observed at the table.

203. A reasonable man should not be like an animal who eats until he is satisfied, but should only eat as much as he needs, simply to sustain himself for the glory of God.

204. Oh your poor life! And you talk about this? And you complain about such a thing?

You are unworthy to be in this place. (When a brother complained about the poor food.)

205. The mortification of the taste is the A B C of the Spiritual life.

206. If the old and weak can carry out these fasts, why can't a young and strong man like myself do the same.

207. I have no greater enemy than my own body.

208. Mortification of taste promotes good judgment; but immortalized men will ruin the Order.

209. Each one is to eat that which is placed before him, nor will it be proper for anyone to want or give something to his companion.

210. Remember that the devil does not sleep... and therefore, brothers you don't have

to feel bad about losing sleep... for love of the sick... these are our Mornings.

211. I don't believe that there is any field of nice smelling flowers which I enjoy as much as I do the smell in the hospital, which is very pleasing and relaxing to me.

212. I enjoy the kind of music that the poor sick in the hospital make when many of them cry out together and say: 'Father, clean out my mouth, make my bed, clean and wash my feet.' This is the music that the servant of the Sick ought to enjoy the most.

213. Everyone should practice mortification of the eyes when leaving the house.

214. With the help of God I have never voluntarily looked at or fixed my eyes upon the face of any woman.

215. No one should encourage any of the sick to leave anything to our society. If a patient in a hospital should leave something to our society, it is by no means. (Rule 44)

216. No one is to have private possessions, but everything is to be held common, and we cannot have any fixed possessions in common except the house we live in. (Rule 3)

217. No one should dare to have money except the superior and the procurator, who are to keep all the money in one safe only, which is to have two keys, one for each. (Rule 3)

218. Our living must be from alms, because we hope that holy poverty will help greatly in the growth and maintaining of this society in spirit and devotion. (Rule 3)

219. All shall endeavor to strip himself of every earthly affection for relatives and friends and acquire spiritual affection, loving them only with that love which proper charity seeks. (Rule 45)

220. Lord, I give you thanks to you that after being a candidate for hell, you had me become your servant.

221. Brothers, I know clearly the will of God is that our order also engages in Study, preaching and confession, not as a principle purpose, but as necessary means to perfectly arrive at this purpose of our Order.

222. A servant of the Sick without Charity is a fish out of water, which soon dies. He is a body without a soul, as a soldier without weapons.

223. Since God has called us into this Order of love toward our neighbor, which is the best part of all, we don't have to feel envy for any other Order in the entire world.

224. Do not think that I have any other thought in my head, than to serve the sick and the poor and to die for them, and this is my only delight, my only good.

225. Fathers and Brothers, remember that you have been called by God as advocates and defenders of patrimony and inheritance of Christ, which are the souls of the poor sick brought back and redeemed with his precious blood.

226. Remember that this ministry of service to the Sick is angelic, because the holy angels themselves stand in defense of the dying,

speaking through your mouths and suggesting to you that which you ought to say to them in their last agony.

227. My wish was to live and die as a penitential Capuchin, but God willed otherwise, this is a sign that God wants me here to serve his poor, the sick people.

228. The house master must show paternal charity to all, keeping a watchful eye like a diligent father over his family.

229. Everyone when helping the sick whether with meals or medicine should try to leave a spiritual thought with the sick, encouraging them to be patient and to go to confession. (Rule 33, 40-43)

230. How is it possible for me not to feel well here in this hospital, the paradise on the earth,

possessing the hope and pledge of heavenly bliss.

231. God forgive you, brother, are you entreating me? Don't you know that I am here at your command as your servant and slave. (St. Camillus to sick person when he asked for a help)

232. No, no, my son; none of this fuss! You are my master and the body of Christ and I am only too happy to help you because in serving you I am serving Christ. (Camillus to a sick person)

233. Let me tell you, brother, I have made a vow to be your servant, so I ask you never to say thank you.

234. My dearest brother, for the love of God, I implore you not to weep or feel sad; I am here

ready to serve you. I shall not leave you until I see you satisfied. (St. Camillus in tears says to a sick person)

235. Look at the golden colour of this straw, it is pure gold because with it one can purchase heaven and eternal life.

236. Here brothers at the bedside of the patient, you will find joy and pearls that will be set in the heavenly crown of those ministers of the sick who are good and perfect.

237. Brother, take a good look at these gloves and remember that charity must be given in the right spirit and with a generous heart. (Camillus to a young Man while he is about to care the sick.)

238. More heart! More motherly love, put more life in to your work, more life!

239. Cheer up your Charity will save both body and Soul. (Camillus to worried doctors)

240. Tell Monsignor I am busy with our Lord and that as soon as I am free, I shall be there with his illustrious Lordship. (Camillus reply to the Hospital governor when he asked to meet him while Camillus was serving a sick person.)

241. Let us pray to the Lord that this plan may take root and be for his perpetual glory and service.

242. Unbelievers, heretics and pagans could be converted just by seeing our works of Charity.

243. Lord, I am sorry for having offended you and I thank you for having brought me to this holy place to die fortified by all the sacraments, even though I deserve to be struck by a

thousand bolts of lightning, to be hanged, drawn and quartered a thousand times over.

244. My brother, be sure you have made good confessions for if you die in sin you may go to hell. (Camillus to a sick person, seriously ill)

245. I prefer the music made by my poor patients at the hospital when they cry out to me, "father, I want to rinse my mouth! Make my bed! Warm my feet!

246. I don't think I could find anywhere a field of scented flowers that I would love as much as the hospital and its smells which seem to put new life in me.

247. My Lord, my heart, my soul, what do you want from me? What can do for you.

248. May the Lord give me the grace to die with my hands covered in this holy paste of

Charity...what greater joy or honour than to appear in the presence of god wearing these golden gloves of charity.

249. This is the mine of gold and precious stones where I can make and desire to make myself rich.

250. Even if the heavens roll with thunder and are alive with lightning, a minister of the sick is still expected to run to the assistance of the dying!

251. This heroic work of charity is the cross we must willingly shoulder without allowing it to drag through ill will.

252. Signor Leo, the time has now come for you to leave this miserable world; trust in the mercy of the Lord who shed his blood for your salvation. See! He is showing you his wounds,

his open side... look at him, crowned with thorns... be brave, do not give in to temptation, do not believe the wicked devil... (Camillus to a dying patient).

253. Somewhere, here is the great devil, but with God's grace he will have to leave (Camillus while visiting a man's house).

254. The angels stand in defense around the dying and speak through your mouths, prompting what you should say to those poor souls at that solemn moment.

255. My brothers never drop your guard in the fight which the devil wages and will continue to wage against you.

256. Get on with what you are doing, even with greater resolve; do not cease prompting to the dying person's invocations to the most

holy name of Jesus, his most precious blood, to the immaculate virgin Mary, and these, like so many fiery arrows, will pierce the devil's hatred and torment him.

257. If there were no poor people in the world then we would need to search for them and dig them up from the ground so that we could do good to them.

258. Whenever you are in need, come to the Magdalene, and even if there is only one loaf of bread in the house, half of it will be for you and your waifs. (Camillus to a hermit)

259. Try your best to walk according to the sacred precepts of the Lord and do good by being friend to the poor whom the Lord strongly commends to us... if we do his we shall be very happy... I repeat, be a friend to the poor, give generously.

260. Try to be a good and perfect Christian... this is man's true wealth, not the things your father left you. Let such thing be the means of your saving soul, not losing it.

261. Do these alms, perhaps, belongs to you? Believe me, if you are not good to the poor, God will not be good to you, and at the hour of your death, your measure will be the measure with which you meted out your charity to these poor people.

262. Father, do as I tell you, go back to bed because God wishes to give you your reward for all the hard work you did at Nola. (Camillus to a Conferer, who died 48 hours later.)

263. Courage, courage! Be brave soldiers in Christ's army and fight valiantly.

264. See here, my brother, it is for love of this my crucified Christ and to serve him and his sick members, that I would travel night and day; any other reason or motive does not mean a thing to me.

265. Outside of the Hospitals, the Ministers of the sick are like fish out of the water sure to die.

266. Charity is what transforms us in to God and purges us of every stain of sin.

267. Preach the Gospel by healing the sick. Heal them in the full, complete, evangelical sense of the word, according to the terms in which the supreme judge will demand an account of us on the last day. If the sick person is Christ, no task asked of us to satisfy the needs of the sick can be humiliating or mortifying...to serve god is to reign.

268. If we attend charity and give it all we have and are, we shall have money to throw away.

269. The patients are Our Lords and masters and we their servants and slaves. The servant is not and never can be higher than his master nor come before him... we must not only serve them, but even be ready to die for them.

270. All other exercises and administrations, which, besides those practiced in hospital, are contained in the bulls, are only accessory to and means for achieving with greater perfection the bodily and spiritual care of the sick in hospitals: therefore we must proceed with sobriety and great caution lest we put in the way of our principal aim.

271. Blessed be the Ministers of the Sick who dies in the hospital while actively nursing the

Sick: their tears and their blessing will go with him to God's tribunal.

272. My dear brother, leave God to himself. There is a sick person looking for you who has need of you. Run to him: it is Jesus himself who wants you in the person of that poor man who is suffering and dying. (Camillus to a praying religious)

273. My dear brother, be strong in faith, in hope, in the merciful love of God who wants your salvation and will save you if you repent and ask pardon of him. Do not be afraid; your sins are less than a drop of water in the infinite ocean of his mercy. His precious blood was shed for you... One single drop is enough to wipe out all sin. (Camillus to a sick person)

274. My dear brothers and companions, if you do not safeguard purity and Chastity in this life

in the society you have Chosen by you, you will not be able to do good nor obtain the grace of God, nor will any of your deeds be pleasing to him.

275. Although I have always insisted, still I must not fail to remind you all, present and future that in serving the sick in hospitals and helping the souls of the dying we must maintain the purity of our poverty with perfect diligence and in the right spirit... and therefore I exhort you all to be very faithful in defending this holy vow of poverty, never consenting in any way, no matter how little we may possess, to change it or deviate from this holy vow...

276. I would rather sleep with dragon than money.

277. With a few repairs, this will last me for another three years, it's old no doubt, but so

am I, and anything is good enough for an old man. (In response to buying new habit for him)

278. If you are cold and indifferent in your nursing of the sick, it is a bad sign; the love of God has grown weak in you.

279. You can and must give me Orders because I am under obligation to obey you since I have made myself your servant and slave.

280. I am more convinced than ever that God granted me a great grace in calling me to this sacred vineyard, affording me this means... We need... to go straight ahead united in Spirit with our Creator, through the holy and unceasing use of prayer.

281. Anyone who ministers to the Sick with charity is marked with the clear sign of

predestination... the true way of ensuring eternal salvation is by exercising charity to the sick poor...

282. Whatever you give to the poor for the love of God becomes your own.

283. No other apostolate unites us more to God than charity to the sick. It is what transforms us in to God.

284. What do these people want with me? Who do they think I am? In fact, I do not know how this world puts up with me, wretch that I am. (When people called Camillus as saint because he performed miracles)

285. Only God and Our Lady distributed graces, take care make no mistake: I am not what you think I am, nor can I do what you

imagine. I am a firebrand of hell." (Camillus to those who asked his graces and blessings)

286. The devil has not stopped, nor does he nor will he ever stop trying to destroy and eradicate this poor plant from which so much glory to God is expected... and so each of you must be on his guard...

Litany of St. Camillus de Lellis

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

St. Camillus, specially chosen by God
Vessel of God's compassion for the sick
Instrument of God's fatherly care for the sick
Patron of the sick
Founder of the Ministers of the Infirm
Patron of the hospitals and health care
professionals

Recipient of God's mercy

Recipient of grace in suffering

Lover of the Cross

Faithful disciple of the Crucified Lord

Father of good death

Father of the Red Cross

Founder of the 'New School of Charity'

Faithful servant in the mystical vineyard

Genuine sacrifice of love

Pray for us

True witness to Christian charity
 Motivated by the voice of the Crucified
 Model of total service to the sick
 Model of poverty
 Model of ardent faith
 Model of total submission to God's will
 Model of merciful love
 Example for all health care workers
 Example of true conversion
 Example of genuine Christian charity
 Example of prayerfulness and trust
 Example of devotion to Mary, our Mother
 Humble servant of Christ in the sick
 Comforter of the sick and the dying
 Consolation in suffering
 Refuge of the sick and the afflicted
 Beacon of hope for the hopeless

Pray for us

Lamb of God,
 you take away the sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord

Lamb of God,
 you take away the sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord

Lamb of God,
 you take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us

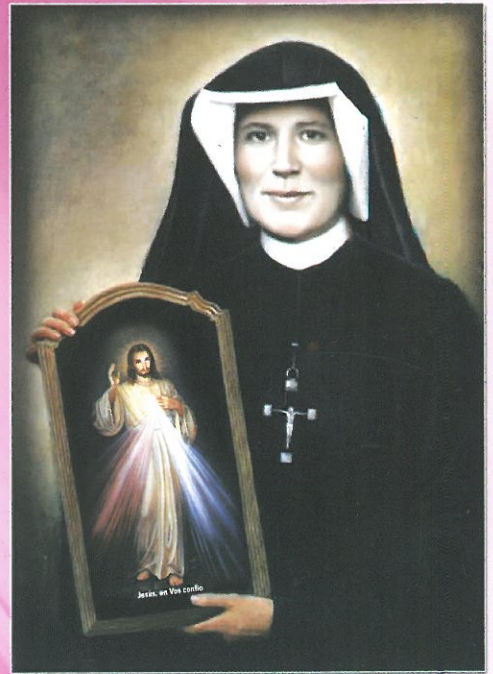
Cel: Pray for us St. Camillus, our heavenly patron,

All: *That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

A CAMILLIAN PRAYER

O Saint Camillus, you taught us that the "poor and the sick are the heart of God and that in serving them we serve Jesus Christ". Help us to see the face of Jesus in the sick whom we serve. Give us hearts that love, eyes that understand, words that comfort and a faith that inspires them. May our presence help them to see Christ, feel Christ and know Christ more closely and may they come to believe in Him deeper and deeper. Inspire them to trust in the love of the Father even amid torments and pain, illness and suffering, hoping in the eternal reward that awaits them.

When we are sick enable us to transform our suffering into healing, our fears into trust and our discouragement into zeal for heaven, and help us to treasure each moment of life as a gift from the Lord. Amen.



Saint Maria Faustyna Kowalska
The Mediatrix of Divine Mercy Pray for Us