



FR. HELIODORO DELGADO SÁIZ
(1936 – 2021)

Fr. Heliodoro was born in Mazuelo de Muñó in the diocese of Burgos, on February 24, 1936. He entered the Order of Camillians at Navarrete (La Rioja) on October 18, 1947.

He began his novitiate at Vic (Barcelona) on September 7, 1952, and made his temporary religious profession on September 8, 1953, and his solemn profession on March 19, 1957.

He received the sub-diaconate in Lourdes de Tona (Barcelona), on December 20, 1958, and the diaconate at Vic (Barcelona), on March 14, 1959. He was ordained a priest on June 28, 1959, in the church of the Vincentian religious in Barcelona.

For two years he remained at Vic doing a course of pastoral formation in the seminary and as the assistant to the master of novices. During this period, he also offered his service as a teacher.

In September 1961, he was transferred to Madrid as chaplain of the San Camilo clinic.

Three years later, in 1964, he moved to the community of Seville as chaplain of the *Hospital Central*, of the *Adoración Nocturna* and, later, of the *Passio Catholica*. He was also part of the diocesan presbyteral council until his transfer to Vic in 1966.

On May 28, 1968, he returned to Vic as superior of the community, a position he held for three years, while also serving as master of the seminarians.

In September 1971, he was appointed superior and bursar of the new hospital community of the *Francisco Franco* health residence in Barcelona.

In November 1983, he joined the community of Seville as chaplain in *El Rocío*.

In 1995, he was transferred to Sant Pere de Ribes (Barcelona) as chaplain of the *Sant Camil* hospital. He became part of the commission for pastoral health of the diocese of Barcelona and the archpriesthood of Vilanova i La Gentrú.

In 1998, he was assigned to the community of Tres Cantos as chaplain of the San Camilo retirement home, becoming part of the health ministry of the archpriesthood.

In 2001, he returned again to live in the community of Sant Pere de Ribes, as chaplain of the *Sant Camil* hospital, and during this time he was part of the pastoral commission of the local church.

In June 2017, he was assigned to the community of Tres Cantos and appointed local superior for the three-year period 2017-2020. He joined the community on July 18 and took office as superior on July 27. He combined his assignment as superior with spiritual care in the health centre and liturgical animation in the chapel.

In 2018, he was diagnosed with a form of leukaemia, for which he had to begin treatment at *La Paz* Hospital in Madrid, with cycles of chemotherapy and platelet transfusions every week, with short periods of 'respite' during this period. However, Fr. Heliodoro continued his service as superior and as chaplain of the care centre, where he was always recognized for his work, dedication, and caring for the residents and for those at the end of life and their families.

On Saturday, March 6, 2021, Fr. Heliodoro's health deteriorated, and he was transferred from the community to the health centre's palliative care unit for more appropriate care.

Fr. Heliodoro's daily life would be very easy to describe, especially highlighting his profound dedication to visiting the sick and celebrating the sacraments.

On March 15, he celebrated the sacrament of the sick, receiving the anointing. He greeted the confreres of the community, his family and some other religious, thanking them and asking for forgiveness. At the end of the celebration, he sang the hymn to St. Camillus with all the people present.

On March 25, 2021, he died in *San Camilo* in Tres Cantos. The funeral will be celebrated on Friday, March 26, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. in the chapel of the centre, and will be broadcast on social media for the patients and the religious of the province.

His mortal remains will rest in the cemetery of Colmenar Viejo.