



Ministers of the Infirm

Newsletter

Camillian world seen from Rome, and Rome seen from the world

N. 92



Message of the Superior General



Fr. Pedro Celso Tramontin, MI
Superior General
Ministers of the Infirm

**May your
charity know
no limits**

**“
May the Risen
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Dear brothers and sisters,

A cordial greeting to all of you.

We are living the intense moments of Holy Week: the passion of Christ brings us back to the many brothers and sisters who suffer in body and soul. In this context we reaffirm with faith that the resurrection of Jesus will bring us a renewed hope, which we long for.

I hope that the mystery of death and life, which we celebrate in the liturgy, will renew our enthusiasm and make us more aware of the depth of our charism and the value of our ministry towards people who are suffering.

We thank God for the gift of life and our vocation and are grateful to St. Camillus for his inspiration and continued intercession.

I join all of you in this Easter celebration and wish:

- May we be instruments of love, compassion and care for the sick and needy, just as our Founder taught us. May we renew our faith and our mission to serve, with humility and dedication.
- May the hope inherent in Easter strengthen us in our journey and may we be living witnesses of Christ's love every day. May the joy of the resurrection be in our hearts and spur us to live in fraternity and solidarity.
- May the Risen Jesus enlighten our hearts and inspire us to

continue to serve with love so that we can be living witnesses of His love, bringing hope and consolation to suffering men and women.

- May the joy of the resurrection make our vocation more radical and animate us in ministry so that we can be instruments of healing, compassion and hope, following the footsteps of St. Camillus.
- May the Risen Jesus, in His infinite mercy, console, through us and the Christian community, those who suffer, heal the sick and give peace to troubled hearts.

Easter reminds us that He is with us in every circumstance of our life!

On my behalf, and on behalf of the consulta and confreres of the Maddalena community, I wish each of you a holy and peaceful Easter!

May God, through the intercession of St. Camillus, bless you abundantly!

Happy Easter to all!

Fr. Pedro Tramontin MI
Rome, 30th March, 2024

Servant of God Alexandre Toé

Beatification and Canonization Process Opened

by **Fr. Walter Vinci MI**
General Postulator



The official opening of the “Process on the life, virtues, reputation of holiness, and signs” of the Servant of God Alexandre Toé was celebrated on March 15, 2024, at the Courtroom of the Vicariate of Rome, the territory where he lived, especially during the last months of his life, and where he died on December 9, 1996.

The opening ceremony of the “Cause of beatification and canonization,” called the First Session, began at 12:00, with the reading of the Decree of introduction and the nihil obstat from the Holy See, the installation of the tribunal appointed by the Cardinal Vicar, the swearing-in of the tribunal members, and those of the general postulation of our Order.

It is a great joy for our entire

Camillian charismatic family, for the Diocese of Rome, and for Burkina Faso, as it is the first beatification cause of our Order outside Italy. A great joy indeed.

One beautiful aspect of Father Alexandre Toé can be found in an expression noted in his spiritual diary: “The poor Burkinabé in rich Rome,” which reflects his belonging to his people, Camillian spirituality, and the style of his human and spiritual life. Poor, meaning begging for love for God and for the sick brother, as reminded by His Excellency Most Reverend Monsignor Paolo Ricciardi, auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Rome, who presided over the First Session, representing the Cardinal Vicar.

On October 5, 1991, Father Alexandre was sent to Rome for medical treatment due to a



manifestation of hepatitis, and at the same time, he began studying Theology at the Pontifical Lateran University.

At the end of his studies, on October 18, 1994, he made his

Solemn Profession at the church of Santa Maria Maddalena, the seat of the General Curia of the Camillian Order; on January 15, 1995, he was ordained a Deacon by His Excellency Most Reverend Monsignor Armando Brambilla, auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Rome and Delegate for Pastoral Healthcare, at the church of the “Villa Sacra Famiglia” Nursing Home in Monte Mario - Rome; upon returning to Burkina Faso, on July 1 of the same year, he was ordained a priest by His Excellency Most Reverend Monsignor Jean Baptiste Tiendrebeogo, auxiliary bishop of Ouagadougou.

He returned to Italy where, in 1996, his superiors entrusted him with the task of vocation promotion of the Province and appointed him assistant master of Postulants at the study house (studentato) in Rome. He carried out his ministry with fervour and competence, transmitting through his smile and his spirituality, as various testimonies attest, love for the little ones of the Gospel: the poor and the sick, who were the privileged way for Father Alexandre to reach holiness.

Pope Francis in the Apostolic Exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate* affirms: “Are you consecrated? Be holy by living your commitment joyfully” (n. 14). Father Alexandre



Toé is the realization of what the Holy Father says here, as he, inhabited by the joy of the Risen Lord, made his life a gift both in the generous response to the Lord's call and in the exercise of ministry within the city of Rome, albeit for only 17 months.

Father Alexandre within our Church, in the Camillian Order, and in the contemporary world, was a religious who, as taught by the Second Vatican Council in the Decree *Perfectae Caritatis*, was “animated by a complete faith, love for God and neighbour, love

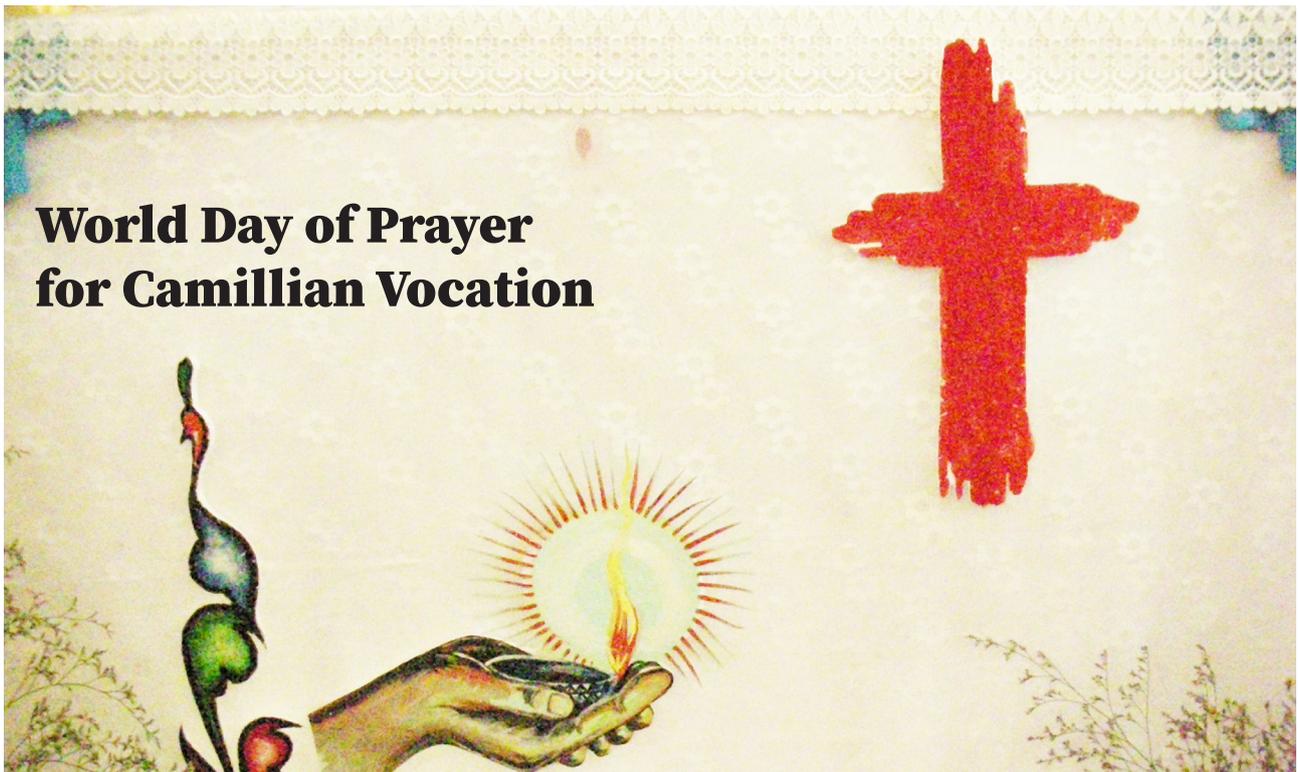
for the Cross, and hope in future glory,” and therefore can represent a valid model for those who choose to adhere to the Lord's call in the profession of the evangelical counsels.

On March 16, we gathered, in one choir, in the Basilica of San Camillo – Rome, and thanked the Lord for the gift of Father Alexandre Toé with a Solemn Eucharistic Celebration presided over by His Excellency Most Reverend Monsignor Prosper Kontiebo, Metropolitan Archbishop of Ouagadougou, and concelebrated by numerous priests. Yes, one choir, one family. This is the teaching of the saints: to be one, to praise God in a single song of praise.

We, the Camillian charismatic family, have the task of making known and spreading this extraordinary figure: a gift for the whole Church; to pray that the cause may proceed smoothly and to ask for his intercession for the healing of our sick brothers.







World Day of Prayer for Camillian Vocation

The General Consulta, considering the proposal of the Formation Commission of the Order of the Ministers of the Infirm, has formally decided to establish June 29 as the World Day of Prayer for Camillian Vocation. June 29 has a historical relevance since it is the day on which St. Camillus was canonised, recognised as a giant of Charity. This day aims to dedicate a specific moment to pray for vocations, aligning itself with the Lord's instruction to "Pray therefore to the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2).

Aims of the World Day of Prayer for Camillian Vocation:

- Encourage the members of our Order to reflect on our vocation, to express gratitude to the Lord, and to pray for vocations.
- Strengthen the sense of community among members by providing a day dedicated to shared reflection on the importance of our Camillian vocation, prayer and brotherhood.
- Create awareness of the Lord's call among candidates and professed members.
- Remind ourselves of our responsibility to pray for vocations and promote more vocations to our Order.
- Celebrating the call and commitment of existing members to the Camillian mission.

- Offer an opportunity to show the Order's mission to the public, potentially attracting new members.

The General Consulta, together with the Formation Commission of the Order, will draft a document for the World Day of Prayer for Camillian Vocation as soon as possible. The logo, theme of the year, prayer for vocations, posters, banners, etc., to be distributed to the entire Order will also be developed.

We sincerely appreciate the General Consultor for Formation, Fr. Baby Ellickal MI, and the Formation Commission for initiating this significant initiative and wish this day to be organised in a meaningful, effective and fruitful manner. We ask all major superiors and provincial delegates to follow the guidelines and instructions of the Secretariat for Formation.

May the intercession of St. Camillus, our Holy Founder, and the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of the Ministers of the Infirm, continue to help us on our Camillian journey.

Fr. Pedro Tramontin MI
Superior General

Meeting of the Camillian Chaplains in Spain

by Juan Pablo Hernández



The Spanish Province joyfully celebrated the meeting of the Camillian chaplains in Spain on Tuesday, February 27, 2024, at the Camillian community in Seville. The aim of the gathering was to share the charismatic passion for spiritual assistance in chaplaincies and to revive the most authentic motivations.

The meeting, organized by Brother Long Dinh Tran, first councillor and provincial treasurer, and with the presence of the provincial superior, Brother José Carlos Bermejo, saw the participation of religious from different communities: Barcelona (Father Mathew and Brother Félix), San Pere de Ribes (Father Thuong John), Valencia (Father Agustín and Father Casimir), Seville (Father Allan and Father Isaac, together with Father Jesús Zurbano and Brother Jacinto), and Tres Cantos (Father Alphonse, Father Joseph, and Father Arnaldo

who also collaborates in the spiritual assistance service at the San Camillo Center, and presented the morning reflection). We began our meeting with the morning prayer of Lauds together with the religious of the community, thanking God for the life of Father Joaquín, on his ninety-seventh birthday.

The day started with the greeting of the Provincial Superior, Brother José Carlos Bermejo, who remembered all the Camillian religious serving in chaplaincies, but who, for various reasons, could not be present. He also thanked the participants for their service and availability in the province, emphasizing that many of them hold additional roles, such as superiors, treasurers, formators, and assistants. He emphasized spiritual accompaniment as a “human privilege,” fundamental for connecting with the suffering of people: the sick, family

members, and healthcare workers. Furthermore, he stressed the importance of this service in relation to other medical specialties, recalling the essence of the ministry contained in the Constitution and General Statutes of the Order.

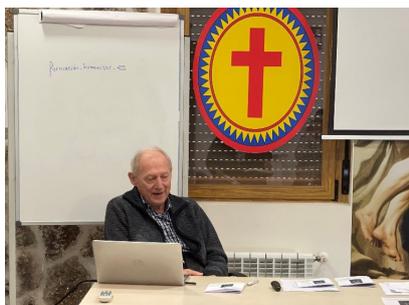
Subsequently, Father Arnaldo Pangrazzi led the first morning session with a reflection on “The mission and roles of the chaplain in the tradition of the Camillian charism,” sharing his experiences as a chaplain both in the United States and in the Palliative Care Unit and Assistance Center in Tres Cantos. In his reflection, he highlighted the importance of service within the context of following St. Camillus, who urged to care with the same love with which a mother cares for her only sick child, and he reminded that the sick are teachers and evangelizers.

Moreover, he identified the recipients of the service in hospitals: the sick, family members, healthcare staff, institutional communities, and volunteers. Faced with the complexity of the current situation for the Church, he called the Camillian religious to be lights in the midst of the darkness of pain, imitating the example of Jesus, physician of bodies and souls. Additionally, he emphasized a list of both positive and negative roles that can be experienced in the service as chaplains, encouraging to avoid those such as ‘devotionism’, individualism, clericalism, paternalism, formalism, and sacramentalism, while purifying motivations.

In the second session, Father Arnaldo invited us to contemplate the faces of suffering and the ministry of consolation, highlighting the importance of understanding and embracing our own wounds, as well as the relevance of presence, visitation, and continuous learning of the art of listening.

After the first part and before lunch, we celebrated the Eucharist presided over by Father Arnaldo, during which we remembered all the deceased Camillian religious of our province who dedicated their lives to the service of the sick through chaplaincies.

In the afternoon, the meeting continued with the exchange



of ministerial experiences of the religious in chaplaincies, highlighting the positive aspects, negatives, and challenges that we face as Camillians in this ministry.

Before concluding, once again the Provincial Superior renewed his gratitude to the participants in the meeting, to Father Arnaldo for his reflection, to the community of

Seville for hosting the meeting, and to all the provinces with which we currently have interprovincial agreements, whose religious collaborate as chaplains and in other ministries in the service of the life and ministry of the Province. He also provided some updated information on the life of the religious and the delegation in Argentina.

We thank God for this fraternal meeting, of sharing experiences and prayer, hoping that we continue to be witnesses of Christ's merciful love towards the sick, following in the footsteps of St. Camillus.

Days of Pastoral Health Care by CONFER

Days of Pastoral Health Care observed on March 4th and 5th, 2024 at the headquarters of CONFER (Conference of Religious Institutes of Spain), focused on the humanization of healthcare. Brother José Carlos Bermejo, Provincial Superior of the Camillian religious in Spain, Cristina Muñoz, responsible for Training and Quality at the Centre for Humanization of Healthcare, and Fr. Arnaldo Pangrazzi from the community of Tres Cantos shared their visions and strategies.

Brother Bermejo emphasized the importance of humanization in all healthcare sectors. In his speech "The phenomenon of health humanization in Spain," he stressed the need to integrate compassion and solidarity into patient care.

Cristina Muñoz, an expert in quality programs, provided keys to improving the relationship between healthcare personnel and patients. She emphasized the importance of considering the person integrally and promoting



empathetic communication centred on the individual.

Arnaldo Pangrazzi, recognized for his expertise in pastoral health care, presented the "alphabet of the heart" as a tool for humanizing care. He emphasized the importance of understanding and managing the emotions of both patients and healthcare personnel.

In summary, the days provided a comprehensive view of humanization in healthcare, highlighting the importance of empathy, effective communication, and comprehensive patient care. These reflections indicate a future where humanization will be a fundamental part of medical care.

The National Conference on Pastoral Care in the Health Care Institutions of India

by Fr. Tinto Valamparackel MI



The National Conference on Pastoral Care in the Health Care Institutions of India, held at St. John's National Academy of Health Sciences in Bangalore on February 28 and 29, 2024, was a significant event that brought together healthcare professionals, chaplains, and pastoral care providers to discuss and explore various aspects of pastoral care in healthcare settings.

The conference commenced with the celebration of Holy Eucharist presided over by Bishop Lumen Monteiro, setting a spiritual tone for the event. The inaugural session featured esteemed dignitaries such as Most Rev. Lumen Monteiro, Rev. Fr. Jesudoss, Rev. Mathew Abraham, Fr. Santhosh Dias, Fr. Teji MI,

and other prominent figures in the healthcare and pastoral care sectors. The conference witnessed the presence of esteemed participants of Camillian confreres, including Fr. Joy, Fr. Teji, Fr. Bacil, and Fr. Tinto, who actively participated, contributing valuable perspectives from their experiences.

The session included welcome addresses, a keynote address, and a presidential address, emphasizing the importance of integrating Gospel values into the governance and operations of Catholic healthcare institutions. The conference program included a series of educational sessions covering a wide range of topics crucial to pastoral care in healthcare. These sessions delved

into areas such as compassionate communication, cultural sensitivity, ethical dilemmas in healthcare, mental health support, palliative care, and the role of prayer and meditation in healing. Expert speakers, including Rev. Dr. John Thekkakara, Dr. Arvind Kasturi, Dr. Nandini Vallath, and Dr. Thomas Mathew, shared their insights and expertise on these critical subjects. Engaging panel discussions provided a platform for in-depth conversations on pastoral health care directives, the role of pastoral health care ministers, counselling, sacraments, and supporting patients and caregivers in diverse cultural contexts. The discussions were moderated by experienced individuals such as Rev. Fr. Mathew Abraham and featured a panel of chaplains and pastoral care associates from various healthcare institutions.

The conference concluded with a sharing and consolidation session, followed by a valedictory function. This session highlighted key takeaways from the conference and provided a platform for participants to reflect on the learnings and experiences shared during the event.

Overall, the conference served as a valuable platform for attendees to boost their knowledge, skills, and understanding of pastoral care in healthcare, ultimately aiming to improve the quality of care provided to patients and their families in healthcare institutions across India.

Lack of Vocations? I would say ‘no’

Notes from a novice master on the favorable moment for priestly and religious vocations in Africa

by Fr. Paolo Guarise MI

Every year in February we leave Karungu House, in the Diocese of Homa Bay, and move to St. Camillus Seminary in Nairobi. Why? Because every afternoon both the novices and their master go to Karen, a village located on the southern outskirts of Nairobi, to take part in inter-congregational formation courses. Three hours of instruction on various biblical, pastoral, and psychological topics. So far, nothing special. Such courses are offered everywhere and are part of the modern training of every novice, male or female, in any diocese in the world. The point I want to highlight here is the influx of trainees, namely the number of novices participating in these courses. This year in Nairobi, 356 novices from 39 congregations took part in the February course. To be precise, most of them were novices in their first (canonical) year or second year of novitiate. The number of men novices was much smaller than that of women novices for two reasons: first, because female religious vocations in Africa are much greater than male ones; second, because male novitiates have more practical opportunities to offer courses - even specific - at their locations.

It should be noted that the 365 trainees who participated in



This year in Nairobi, 356 novices from 39 congregations took part in the February course

the course do not represent the complete number of novices present in Nairobi, let alone in Kenya, because - as mentioned - many do not participate in the inter-congregational courses. These courses are offered three times a year: in February, May, and October. Each of these three months offers a different program that extends over two years for a total of six months of teaching. We Camillians participate in one month per year, in February; the rest of the training takes place at our novitiate house in Karungu.

Provocative Title

The provocative title of this article arose from seeing the crowd of novices who gather every afternoon for instruction and interaction. Upon arriving at the meeting place, seeing a multitude of mini busses struggling to find parking and hundreds of young people sporting religious attire of various forms and colours making their way to the conference hall, I asked myself, “But haven’t we been saying for a long time that there are no more religious vocations?” At the sight of this scene, one

would not say that there are no more religious vocations! Or rather, it is true that there are almost no more vocations, but this applies to Europe or the Western world, certainly not to Africa and, I believe, to many parts of Asia.

Here in Kenya, we are witnessing what was happening in Italy in the 1950s and 1960s, before and during the Second Vatican Council, the years when I myself entered the seminary (in 1962!). At that time, the seminaries - both diocesan seminaries and religious ones, as well as convents of nuns - were crowded, although not everyone who entered later embraced priesthood or religious life. Even then, there were defections, so after the first few years of discernment, many young people

in training pursued other paths in life.

Is the Lord still calling?

In Africa, it is still more or less the same. Not always, even here, are the motivations for vocational choice clear and genuine. So many young people enter the seminary, but many also leave. However, a good number manage to complete their journey through priestly consecration or membership in a religious congregation. The important thing is to recognize that the Lord still calls to follow Christ. He continues to call workers to labour in His vineyard, even though the geographic areas of calling have changed. We hope that this current wealth of vocations in African soil continues both in terms of quantity and quality. Let's not miss the opportunity. It is

necessary to foster a commitment to mutual collaboration between the fortunate African dioceses and the less fortunate Western dioceses. The former should make their human resources available - priests, nuns, religious brothers - while the latter should support the subjects in formation with financial and logistical assistance. Initiatives that are already underway, as it is not uncommon to see Italian parishes run by African priests, or hospital chaplaincies with chaplains from Africa, or kindergartens assisted by African nuns.

In the meantime, let us not grow weary of praying for vocations - even though they are not lacking in Africa - because the harvest is still abundant, too abundant!



50 years of presence of the Ministers of the Sick (Sisters) in Thailand

by Fr. Sante Tocchetto MI

On 9th and the 15th March, the Ministers of the Sick (Camillian Sisters) wanted to solemnly celebrate half a century of presence in Thai soil at their central headquarters in Ban Pon Ratchaburi.

On the 9th, a commemorative party was carefully organized with the presence of many benefactors and friends, culminating in the solemn celebration of the Holy Mass presided over by the Bishop of Ratchaburi, Mons. Silvio Siripon Charatsri, and concelebrated by the Apostolic Nuncio Mons. Peter Brayan Wells. Before the Holy Mass, the Sisters gave a brief chronicle from their arrival to the various achievements of today in favor of the smallest and abandoned.

During the celebration, Bishop Mons. Silvio Siripon expressed great gratitude and appreciation for the presence and activity of the Sisters. At the end of the celebration, there were also appreciations from the Apostolic Nuncio Mons. Peter Brayan Wells. Almost all the Camillian confreres were also present.

On the 15th, a grand celebration was organized exclusively among the Ministers of the Sick. This was very appreciated by all the Camillian confreres who showed their joy for this fraternal encounter and offered gifts, hoping to reciprocate the courtesy on the next occasion, continuing in collaboration.



The Provincial Superior Father Paolo Cerdchai Lertjitlekha presided over the Eucharistic celebration, after which there was a brief chronicle about the collaboration between the Camillians and the Ministers of the Sick Sisters, songs performed as a thanksgiving, and a mutual exchange of compliments. The Confreres were almost all present, as were the Sisters, and the joy of

being together and of this mutual sharing was felt.

Of course, there was also lunch, prepared with great dedication by the Sisters themselves, and the commemorative cake to conclude the event. We thank the Lord for this beautiful day of fraternity, and we wish all the Sisters every good so that they can develop their presence and testify to God's love to all the brothers and sisters in need.

The Lay Camillian Family “San Camillo” of Csíkszereda (Hungary) celebrates thirty years

by **Maria Hajnalka Bakó**

On March 25, 2024, by the grace of God, the Lay Camillian Family “San Camillo” of Csíkszereda celebrates 30 years. It is a vocation that fills life, with roots that perhaps date back to times preceding our birth, which provided its foundations.

I first heard about the LCF in September 1992 in Budapest when my Mother-Éva (now a blessed memory) spoke about it during a private retreat at Mária Herpy’s house (who was then the administrator of the Budapest Rock church). Then, there was silence for a year.

On October 17, 1993, I was able to attend the extraordinary Mass celebrated by the Camillian father Dr. Anton Gots in Budapest, discerning my vocation in life. The central theme of the sermon amazed me because it presented the unification of human suffering with the redemptive suffering of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is what the Father called “holiness”, if one lives suffering as “holiness” with the Lord Jesus Christ. I was astonished to discover that I was a “living sacrament” because of the sufferings I had experienced through my illnesses.

I fell in love with St. Camillus. My life had meaning. An era had ended, and a new broad path full of promises and opportunities opened before me, into which I entered with confidence. At the end of the Holy Mass, I received important news: the leadership of the Camillian Order had decided, upon the recommendation of my

mother-Éva, to send me to Rome to continue my studies. I was thrilled with this proposal, which I dared not speak about to my family at home. Shortly after, I was asked to organize a meeting for Father Gots in Csíkszereda.

The first Camillian meeting took place in mid-March 1994. The mayor at the time, Csaba Csedő (former director of the hospital), provided us with the banquet hall of the Municipality for three days. 137 participants were invited from twenty locations in our Harghita Province, personal acquaintances. On that occasion, we also invited the future Father Alfréd György. It was a fantastic meeting.

A week later, on March 25, 1994, the first Camillian gathering was held, again in a room of the Municipality, now among us, without a shepherd, and as a family. We took the name of “San Camillo” and began the journey of spirituality, with as many as we had, but from the beginning, we operated on two levels, Camillian spirituality and charity. We never had a Camillian spiritual assistant.

Under the patronage of Dr. Csaba Csedő, we organized visits to patients at the County Hospital and to homebound patients in the parish area, whom we visited together.

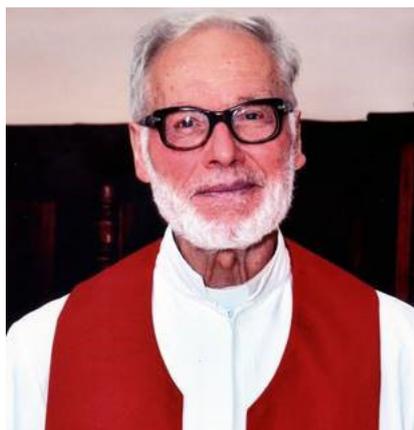
Between 1994-97, I completed the first part of my studies in Rome, after which I stayed at home for a year to prepare the official license of the LCF in our diocese.

In 1997, the consecration of our LCF took place in the parish of Saint Augustine through Father Péntes József, the parish priest. From December onwards, the monthly Message of the LCF of Csíkszereda was launched, in Hungarian and Italian, the only Camillian spiritual bulletin in Eastern Europe. In this year, we began the spiritual exercises of lay Camillians, initially together with the disabled.

In 2000, I completed my studies at the Camillianum (and Theresianum) in Rome, and before the end of the year, with the support of dignitaries of the Hungarian Catholic Church, we started for the first time in Csíkszereda the spiritual care of hospital patients, which lasted for me for 16 years until my retirement. During this period, the hospital became our meeting point for many occasions of celebration, prayer, Mass, spiritual exercises, Catholic festivals, etc.

In the meantime, seven volumes of books for lay Camillians and the sick have been published, two more are forthcoming - one has been awaiting publication for three years, and another is in preparation.

In these thirty years, we have lost many of us, new ones have arrived, and those who remain have a great debt of gratitude to Almighty God for these thirty years of grace, even if He has given each of us smiles or tears, according to our ability to bear them, but it was worth it.



Father Carlos Alberto Pigatto [1927-2024]

Carlos Alberto Pigatto, son of Pietro Pigatto and Elisa Donà Pigatto, was born on February 4, 1927, in Silveira Martins - RS, and was baptized on February 18 of the same year. He entered the São Camilo Seminary in Iomerê, SC, on November 13, 1936. On March 18, 1943 he entered the novitiate, on March 19, 1944 he made his first religious profession and on February 11, 1948 he professed his religious vows in São Paulo.

He studied philosophy at the Faculty of Sciences and Letters in Mogi das Cruzes - SP, and theology at the Pius XII Camillian Institute in São Paulo. On June 11, 1949, he was ordained a deacon in São Paulo, and on July 9, 1949, he was ordained a priest, also in São Paulo.

Carlos continued his studies in Hospital Administration at the São Paulo School of Hygiene and Public Health (1958); he lived for a year in the Camillian Community of Milwaukee, in the United States, in order to specialize in the Hospital Pastoral Course (CPE) (1980); and he also took the Hospital Pastoral Course offered by the Order in Bucchianico (1996).

Soon after his ordination, he began his ministry assisting in formation (1949-1955); he was Principal of the College in Jaçanã, São Paulo (1955-1957); Superior of the Nossa Senhora do Rosário de Pompeia Community in São Paulo (1957-1961); Director of the São Camilo Hospital in São Paulo (1961-1962); Chaplain of the Hospital das Clínicas of the University of São Paulo (1962-1965); Director of the house and formation of brother seminarians in São Paulo (1962-1965); Director of the Ipiranga Children's Clinic in São Paulo (1965-1977); Superior of the São Pio X Community in Granja Viana, Cotia - SP (1977-1979); and Director of the Recanto São Camilo in Granja Viana (1977-1979).

After decades of activities in São Paulo, he was transferred to Iomerê, where he worked as a seminary teacher (1980-1981). Later, he was transferred to Sinop - MT, where he was Superior and Formator at the Seminary (1981-1986). In 1986, he was transferred to Monte Santo de Minas - MG, where he also worked as Superior and Formator at the seminary, being Principal and teacher of the students (1986-1988).

In 1988 he was transferred to Pinhais - PR, where he worked as Principal and teacher of students at the Seminary (1988-1989). In 1989 he was transferred to Santos - SP, where he worked as Chaplain at the Santa Casa de Santos (1989-1990). Returning to the area of formation, he was a formator and supervisor of adult vocations in Granja Viana, São Paulo. In 1991 he was transferred again to Iomerê, where he worked as Superior and Formator (1991-1995).

Returning to São Paulo in 1995, he served as Superior and Master of the Professed (1995-1997). In 1997, he returned to work as Chaplain at the São Camilo Hospital in São Paulo (1997-2000); later he was Chaplain at the Santa Casa de São Paulo (2000-2004). After this period in São Paulo, he was transferred again to Iomerê, where he served as Vicar of the São Luiz Parish (2004-2021) and as Superior of the Community (2004-2013).

It is worth highlighting the great love that Fr. Carlos had for the Order, a trait that was already noticeable on first approaching him. As one of the first religious to be formed in the Brazilian Province,

his knowledge of the foundation was not simply theoretical, but above all experiential - it was truly a precious living book that spoke of the things he studied and lived with passion and critical sense, always seeking to strengthen fraternity and fidelity to the charism.

We cannot fail to mention his vast culture and erudition: he loved studying languages and reading was his favorite activity, which unfortunately he was unable to do in the last years of his life due to the serious eye problems he suffered - a fact that caused him great sadness.

Due to health issues, on May 15, 2021 Fr. Carlos was transferred from the São Luiz Community to the São Pio X Community, in Cotia - SP. After a long period of care, Father Carlos Pigatto died in the early hours of March 12, 2024 at the São Camilo Hospital in Granja Viana, Cotia - SP.

On the 12th, from 11 a.m., his body was laid to rest in the hospital chapel, and at 2 p.m., a Mass was celebrated for his body. The celebration was attended by many Camillian men and women religious, family members, friends, authorities and Camillian collaborators. After the Mass, the

body was taken to the Blessed Sacrament Cemetery, where it was buried in the Camillian Religious Cemetery.

We praise God for the life and witness of Fr. Carlos, for his fruitful ministry and for his dedication in everything he did, especially to the sick and those most in need. May his example encourage us to see in each brother the face of Christ himself, and may he hear from the Lord that beautiful call: "Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Mt 25:34).



Father Giulio Fiorentino Ghezzi [1943-2024]

He was born on 10 December 1943 at Prezzate di Mapello (BG) to his parents Angelo and Carmela Alborghetti. Like his brother Pierino two years earlier, he entered the Camillian Seminary of Villa Visconta, in Besana Brianza (MB) on 10 October 1954, enrolled in the V elementary school, and then in the Middle School. His sister Carmen, ten years elder to him, also made the choice of religious life. After High School in the Seminary of Marchirolo (VA), he entered the novitiate on 25 September 1962 in Verona,

in the House of San Giuliano, where he made his religious profession on 26 September 1963. Having completed the Classical Lyceum in 1966, with the year of propaedeutics he began Theology at the "Zenoniano" in Verona.

On 8 December 1968 he made his Solemn Profession of Vows. Like every professed Camillian, he did corporal assistance in the Camillian facilities during the summer holidays, and obtained the diploma of General Nurse (25 June 1969). On 20 December 1970

he was ordained Deacon in San Giuliano, by Bishop Maffeo Ducoli, Auxiliary Bishop of Verona. From October 1971 he attended St Justina School in Padua, being assigned to San Camillo Parish, where he was ordained a priest on 1 June 1972 by Bishop Girolamo Bortignon of Padua.

After a summer replacement in the chaplaincy of the S. Matteo Hospital in Pavia, on 12 October 1972 he was appointed chaplain at the Veronese hospital 'Borgo Trento' and on 31 December

1974 at the Neapolitan hospital 'Cardarelli', where a community of the Lombardo Veneta was founded.

On 24 January 1980 he left for the Philippines as an English student in Manila, destined for the fledgling Indian Foundation. In the year 1980-1981 he attended the Clinical Pastoral Education at St. Luke Hospital. On 6 June 1981 he went to Karigiri - Vellore (India) as a student on the Leprology Course, obtaining his diploma. On 15 February 1982 he was appointed chaplain at the Heart Centre for Asia in Manila. On 1 January 1983 he returned to Italy, serving as a substitute in the hospital chaplaincies of Pavia, Cremona and Legnago. On 30 August 1983 he left for the Philippines as Novice Master, and from 12 October 1983 in Quezon City he also took up the post of bursar of the Formation Centre. On 13 July 1984 he moved to Baguio, appointed Superior and Novitiate Master in the new location to be set up, 250 km from Manila. On 19 June 1986 he was confirmed as Superior of the Baguio House and Novice Master

for the following three years.

On 14 January 1992 he was transferred to Bangalore (India) as Novice Master but, with the death of his mother in July, at the Customs he was accused of relations with the Kashmiri rebels and was forbidden to return to India. Of course this is not true: he believes it is retaliation by one of his religious circle. As a tourist he managed to complete his novitiate, until 25 May 1993, when he was transferred to Nairobi (Kenya), still Master of Novices. In summer 1995 he was Provincial Delegate of Kenya.

In 1998 the Australian adventure began. On 18 June he was transferred to Perth as hospital chaplain at Charles Gairdner Hospital; on 8 May 2000 he was incardinated in the Far East Province. Since September 2002 he has been in Westmead (New South Wales) as a chaplain, and since May 2004 he had been community superintendent and pastor of the adjoining Sacred Heart parish. On 28 September 2004 he obtained Australian

citizenship. Since September 2007, he was again hospital chaplain in Westmead. After his retirement, he continued to be a chaplain in a new hospital in Napien and also served as a weekend spiritual assistant to the Italians in King Park, in the Diocese of Paramatta.

Degenerative and progressive eye disease, together with a stroke in 2017, rendered him incapacitated and he returned to Italy permanently. On 26 October 2018, he was placed in the community of Capriate San Gervasio, where he helped out as much as he could at the Cerruti RSA. His eye problems worsened and he occasionally had ischemic episodes, a rather worrying one a year ago at Easter Monday. His speech became increasingly difficult. A last rather serious episode at the beginning of February, with ups and downs, gradually led to his death, which occurred on Easter Day, 31 March 2024, after having received the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick the night before in his hospice room, surrounded by his whole community.



**“He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken” (Isaiah 25:8).**