

St. Camillus de Lellis

PATRON OF THE SICK, HOSPITALS AND NURSES

St. Camillus de Lellis is patron saint of the sick, hospitals and nurses. He dedicated his life to the sick and to organizing hospitals. He founded the Order of the Camillians, priests and brothers who work in the area of health. He considered the sick to be Jesus Himself.

PRAYER TO ST. CAMILLUS DE LELLIS:

Glorious St. Camillus, turn your merciful eyes upon those who suffer and those who care for them. Grant to the sick Christian resignation and trust in the goodness and power of God. Make those who take care of the sick be generous and lovingly dedicated. Help me to understand the mystery of suffering as a means of redemption and the way to God. May your protection comfort the sick and their families and encourage them to live together in love. Bless those who dedicate themselves to the infirm. And may the good God grant peace and hope to all. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.
St Camillus de Lellis, pray for us.

WORDS OF JESUS:

“Blessed are those who suffer because they will be consoled.”

“I was sick and you visited me.”

“Come, blessed of my Father, and take possession of heaven.”

“Everything you do to the least of my brethren, you do to me.”

*Novena prayers, day 1 to 9 – always begin with the Sign of the Cross.
End with the “Prayer of the Sick”, at the end of this post.*

FIRST DAY: (Today we pray for all who join in the prayer of this Novena)

Dear St. Camillus, knowing that there is no greater love than to give your life for another, you patiently put up with many infirmities during your life without ceasing to work on behalf of the sick. Intercede with God so that I (or mention name(s) of the person(s) instead of “I” during the course of these novena prayers) may have the strength necessary to overcome the troubles that afflict my life and the life of my family and friends. Help me to spiritually benefit from everything that happens.

- **Do a good deed for someone in need.**
- **Read Mark 5:21-43.**

SECOND DAY: (Today we pray for Hospital Administrators and workers)

Dear St. Camillus, shocked by the abandonment in which the sick lived, you received from Jesus the inspiration to create an organization for caring for the sick with love. Help me to understand that it is important before God to treat those who suffer with love. In the difficult moments of life, give me courage not to become disheartened.

- **Pray for someone who suffers more than you do.**
- **Read Mark 10:46-52.**

THIRD DAY: (Today we pray for the ill who have no one to care for them)

Dear St. Camillus, inspired by the example of the Good Samaritan, you vowed to improve the treatment of the sick. In all countries, may there be more concern and responsibility in helping the sick and in all health services. Give those who are in good health more joy in taking care of the sick. May everyone believe in the immense riches that God reserves for those who love Him and their brothers and sisters.

- **Ask God for the help needed by those who are not taken care of.**
- **Read Luke 10:29-38.**

FOURTH DAY: (Today we pray for the Doctors and Nurses who are caring for the ill.)

Dear St. Camillus, because of your extraordinary love of the infirm, the Church declared you patron saint of hospitals, the sick and nurses. Intercede with God in favor of doctors, the sick and all who take care of them so that they may be good hearted, enthusiastic and competent in their work. Make them remember that Jesus said that 'everything you do to the least of my brothers, you do to me'.

- **Pray for those who take care of the sick.**
- **Read Matthew 25:31-46.**

FIFTH DAY: (Today we pray for those who give pastoral care to the sick)

Dear St. Camillus, meditating on the words of Jesus (everything you do to the least of my brothers, you do to me), you received from God such great faith that you considered the sick as if they were Jesus Himself. Help me to grow in faith in order to always increase my love of the sick and to be ready to help them like a loving mother cares for her only sick child.

- **Make an effort to have more faith.**
- **Read John 5:1-18.**

SIXTH DAY: (Today we pray for those who are emotionally troubled by the pandemic)

Dear St. Camillus, in a moment of great difficulty, you heard from the open-armed crucifix: “Courage, do not become downhearted, this work is not for you, but for me.” Give me always the strength not to become disheartened before the problems of my life and that of others. May everything I suffer convince me of the immense power of God in my favor.

- **Never desist of doing good.**
- **Read John 9:1-41.**

SEVENTH DAY: (today we pray for those who suffer in silence, the unemployed and downtrodden)

Dear St. Camillus, you had great devotion to the Mother of Jesus. May I have greater trust in the power of intercession of Mary with God and be able to imitate her virtues. Help me understand the meaning of suffering and not consider it a punishment. Lord, You helped Camillus in his struggles, help me in the difficulties I face to remain at peace and not get disheartened.

- **Peace must be worked at every day.**
- **Read John 2:1-12.**

EIGHTH DAY: (Today we pray for those who are our first responders)

Dear St. Camillus, even in the most difficult situations, you always trusted entirely in Divine Providence. Increase my faith in the goodness and power of God in favour of His creatures. May I always put myself in His hands in order to be strong in trials and suffering. Help me remember the last words of Jesus: “I will be with you until the end of time.”

- **Never lose hope. God is there.**
- **Read Matthew 6:25-34.**

NINTH DAY: (Today we pray for all humankind, increasing our desire to help all who are ill)

Dear St. Camillus, inspired by the words of Jesus (“I was sick and you visited me”), you dedicated your life and all your strength to help the sick, and to improve hospitals and health conditions in the most difficult circumstances. Arouse everyone’s conscience to be more interested in health problems and to diminish the suffering of the people.

- **Commit yourself to doing good and being with the good.**
- **Read John 13:1-17.**

PRAYER OF THE SICK:

Lord, I come before You in prayer. I know that You hear me, You know me. I know that I am in You and that Your strength is in me. Look at my body racked with infirmity. You know, Lord, how much it hurts me to suffer. I know that You are not pleased with the suffering of Your children.

Give me, Lord, the strength and courage to overcome moments of desperation and exhaustion. Make me patient and understanding. I offer up my worries, anxiety and suffering to be more worthy of You.

Let me, Lord, unite my sufferings with those of Your Son Jesus who for love of men gave His life on the Cross.

Furthermore, I ask You, Lord: Help doctors and nurses take care of the sick with the same dedication and love that St. Camillus had.

Amen.