

PRAYER

Eternal Father, source of Love,
and of every light and goodness,
we give You thanks
for the charism of unity given to Chiara
and for the remarkable witness
to the Church and humanity that she gave of this charism,
remaining faithful to Jesus Forsaken.

Grant us, O Father,
through the action of the Holy Spirit
and the Word lived in the present moment,
and in following Chiara's example,
the grace to contribute
together with all people of good will
to the fulfilment of Your Son's will:
"That they may all be one!"

Humbly we ask You to grant us, Your children,
to live in mutual love and in love of all
so as to rejoice in the presence of the Risen One while,
in communion with Chiara and through her intercession,
we ask You, if it be Your will,
the grace ... *(the personal petition is expressed)*
through Jesus and for the glory of the Most Holy Trinity.
Amen.

With ecclesiastic approval
Cardinal João Braz de Aviz

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Chiara (Silvia) Lubich was born in Trent, Italy, on January 22, 1920. The Focolare Movement (Work of Mary) began with her consecration to God on December 7, 1943. The light that came from living the Gospel and the “*radicalism of love*”, characteristic of her witness, made her an “*apostle of dialogue*”. That included ecumenical and interreligious dialogue as well as dialogue with people without religious affiliation. This happened thanks to a special gift of God acknowledged as providential for our times: the charism of unity, centred on Jesus’ prayer to the Father “*that they may all be one*” (cf Jn 17:21) as well as on the understanding of, and response to the mystery of love contained in Jesus’ cry of abandonment on the cross (cf Mk 15:34).

Welcoming God’s gift every day and journeying towards the fullness of Christian life and the perfection of charity, Chiara Lubich worked so this way of holiness could be lived out by many, in an ever more renewed determination to help all those that God had placed along her path to “*become saints together*”.

The concrete fruits and signs of this spiritual experience and life of sanctification that the Spirit worked in her were manifested throughout her life and at the moment of her death, which took place in Rocca di Papa, Italy, on 14 March 2008. Tens of thousands of people viewed her remains and attended the funeral service celebrated in Rome. Besides, this meaningful presence ensures the continuity of the impact that the charism of Chiara Lubich had and has in the Church and in today’s culture.

Her mortal remains rest in the chapel of the Centre of the Focolare Movement in Rocca di Papa (Rome).

“*That they may all be one*” (Jn 17:21):
We understood that our Movement had come to life to fulfil this page of the Gospel. That ‘all’ would be our field of action, and unity our reason for being. Making this, God’s dream, our own, linked us to heaven.

At the same time, it immersed us totally in the history of humanity, in order to uncover the path leading to universal brotherhood.” (12.09.2004)

Chiara Lubich