## PREPARATION FOR THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE CONGREGATION (1831-2031) CONCLUDING PRAYER OF THE DAY

Heavenly Father, before we retire for the night's rest, we come to praise and thank you, for all the blessings we have received from your bounty. Sincerely we repent of all our sins of omissions and commissions and we ask your forgiveness.

As we prepare ourselves for the Bicentennial of our Congregation, make us docile and prompt to follow the footsteps of our founding fathers, in pursuing the spirit of Carmel, which consist in an ardent life of prayer and apostolic fervour.

Merciful Lord, send your Holy Spirit to guide and inspire all our members, during the days of preparation for the Bicentennial to have a thorough evaluation of our life and activities in the true spirit of our priestly and religious consecration, leading to a radical renewal of life to suit the times. Create in us, an attitude open and generous to get renewed and thus to become 'Grace-Filled Presence' to work for the salvation of the souls.

Shower, O Lord, your gifts and blessings abundantly on our parents, friends and benefactors. May the suffering members of your mystical body find comfort and consolation in sharing in your redemptive suffering. Give eternal rest to all the departed members of our congregation and those of our families. Holy Mary, Immaculate Mother of Carmel, St Joseph our patron, St Thomas our father in faith and Saint Kuriakose Elias Chavara, our founder, we thank you for your special protection and intercession. May the prayers of all the saints and holy fathers of our congregation be with us all through the days of the preparation for the Bicentennial, so that we may be open to the inspirations of the Holy Spirit for the changes that are needed in our lives.

Loving Father, as we conclude this day and retire for night's rest we make this prayer to you. Grant us a peaceful night, protect us from every harm and enable us to welcome a beautiful dawn tomorrow.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all now and always and forever. Amen.

CMI Prior General's House Chavara Hills, Thengode P.O. Post Box No: 3105, Kakkanad, PIN 682 030 Ernakulam, Kerala, India

> (To be recited daily in preparation for the Bicentennial of the Congregation)