Covenant Renewal 2024

Between the Anglican Centre in Rome and the Caravita Catholic Community

"WE LOVE BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US"

(1 John: 4.19)

Introduction

The Anglican Centre in Rome is the permanent Anglican Communion presence in Rome. It is the base of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Personal Representative to the Holy See, who is also the Director of the Anglican Centre in Rome, and whose mission includes fostering the relationship of friendship and deeper understanding between the Anglican Communion and the Roman Catholic Church. It celebrates Eucharist every Tuesday at 12.45 and is located at Palazzo Doria Pamphilj, Piazza del Collegio Romano 2.

The Caravita Community, founded in 2000, is an international, English-speaking group of Catholic Christians who celebrate the Eucharist on Sundays at 11.00 and major holy days at the Oratory of San Francesco Saverio "del Caravita". While not a parish, as a Catholic liturgical community, Caravita is committed to ecumenism and interreligious dialogue, providing a welcoming and inclusive liturgical experience, with a particular concern for those alienated from the Church. Caravita is located at Via del Caravita, 7.

Our respective entities, located close to each other in central Rome, have enjoyed many years of friendship and Christian fellowship, as well as sharing several common goals on our respective paths of faith, service and leadership. We also have natural affinities: neither is a parish; both are committed to ecumenical partnerships in Rome; each group is anchored by the weekly celebration of the Eucharist.

Above all, we are bound by our Covenant, signed in 2013, and reflecting our strong fellowship, common goals, and commitments to continuing our mission together.

This document constitutes a renewal of that Covenant, which may be known by its shortened title, or the longer one, both given here, below.

The Caravita-Anglican Centre Rome Covenant

A renewed covenant to deepen the friendship and relationship between the Anglican Centre in Rome and the Roman Catholic Oratory of Saint Francis Xavier, "del Caravita"

Guided by our common Chrsitian faith that "***we love because He first loved us***" (1 John: 4.19), we, as the Anglican Centre in Rome and the Caravita Catholic Community, solemnly enter this covenant.

1. The faith we share. Building on many decades of ecumenical dialogue between our Churches, we commit to this Covenant to aid our work in building up relations locally, and as a stimulus for further reflection and action more broadly, here in Rome and through our members in the Churches of our countries of provenance.

2. Moving forward in Mission. For many years, Anglicans and Catholics have enjoyed a long-standing friendship in Rome and, in concrete form, our two communities since 2013 have enjoyed a formal fellowship, with many shared interests, activities, and initiatives supported by the Covenant that is to be renewed now, with the aim of providing guidelines for our relationship now and in the coming years.

3. Mutual support and promotion of our works. In order to assist each other in our missions, where appropriate, we agree to:

- provide a link to each other's websites on our respective websites;
- promote and publicize each other's programs, events, and worship, both verbally at the weekly Eucharist, and also on our respective websites;
- encourage members to consider occasional attendance for worship at the other institution, especially during the week of Prayer for Christian Unity;
- provide opportunities to preach at each other's services;
- remember the other church and its leaders and our relations in our intercessions during Eucharist;
- recall our covenant through mentioning the name of the patron saint of the other community during the Eucharistic prayer: Augustine of Canterbury and Francis Xavier respectively;
- share our respective spaces where possible for special events that may benefit from the other community's available space;
- maintain communication between the groups when new developments in one or other of our Churches have implications, cause for celebrations, or challenges for the other.

4. Joint activities. We agree that these may include any of the following:

- Ash Wednesday: joint liturgy of the word and imposition of ashes, hosted by Caravita;
- Advent/Christmas: joint lessons and carols, hosted by Caravita;
- The hosting of installation and farewell services are to be welcomed by the respective entities, as appropriate;
- participation in meetings and events of Churches Together in Rome;
- participation and collaboration in the annual Caravita Ecumenical Lenten

Retreat, held in Orvieto;
- joint organization of concerts, cultural events, lectures, and other initiatives;
- organise fundraising initiatives to support joint activities and works, which may be stand-alone event or conducted through any of the above mentioned activities, as appropriate;
- participate in the week of Prayer for Christian unity, marking it through organization of joint events and liturgies, as required.

5. **Maintaining the Covenant and its operations.** Progress of works will be monitored through:
- an annual meeting between the entities, alternating hosts, at which an annual report of covenant-related activities will be drawn up and shared with respective stakeholders;
- a general review of the Covenant that will take place every three years, with a brief report distributed to respective stakeholders;
- a small working committee drawn from each entity to monitor and organize the activities stipulated in the Covenant.

May they all be one; Even as you, Father, are in me, and I in you; may they be one in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. **(John 17:21)**

Signed by:

…….. (signature)

…….. (printed)

(for the Anglican Centre in Rome)

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(for the Caravita Catholic Community)