

Something Wonderful is about to Happen to Our Parish



## FORTY HOURS DEVOTION

*THE BEST TIME YOU WILL SPEND ON EARTH*

ST. GIANNNA PARISH  
OCTOBER 21, 22 & 23, 2018

## **Anticipation of our Annual Forty Hours Devotion**

**Guest Preacher:**

Mr. Carlo Santa Teresa, Seminarian of the Diocese of Camden

*“Let us, therefore, love God because God first loved us.” 1 John 4:19)*

**A**lmighty God in His loving and wise Providence grants to us again the great privilege of being able to make the Forty Hours Devotion. Ours is the gift of life, of health and of strength, enabling us to enjoy the happiness of serving and adoring our Divine Master present in the Sacrament of the Altar. During our Forty Hours this year, you will note that some who worshipped with us last year at the Forty Hours will not be here. That was their last Forty Hours. They have been taken from us in death. Rather a sobering thought!

Some others, this Forty Hours are lying on a bed of pain and sickness. The Cross of sickness and ill health has been allotted them as a trial and a means of great Grace. How they would love to be with us at our Forty Hours! They can only be with us in spirit and sacrifice. A number of our boys and girls are serving in the Armed Forces, in Iraq, Afghanistan and other places. They may not be physically present but they will be with us in spirit.

We are the fortunate ones. God has placed NO OBSTACLE in our way. No difficulty besets our paths. A Triduum of joy and of love awaits us. Love on both sides. Christ will be here and so will we. Why? Because love is the reason, God’s motive and ours. Because Christ loves us, He instituted the Blessed Sacrament and remains present under the Eucharistic Species. Because we, on the other hand, love Christ so present, we have to come to adore and render Him our homage. “Let us, therefore, love God because God first loved us (1 John 4:19).

For three days, as a united Congregation, as one family, we shall be worshipping our Blessed Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament. By our faithfulness and devotion, we shall be giving testimony to our Faith – to the fact of our sincere belief that in the Blessed Sacrament is the true Presence of the Body and Blood of Christ Himself. These will be three days when we will be present at Mass, happy days of Procession and of fervent Prayer. These will be days of Confession and Communion; days of Adoration in which both the Clergy and the laity will unite in Adoration to our Eucharist Lord.

This is all done for the purpose of giving public expression to an inward Faith in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

### **What Does Our Lord Think?**

What the devout and faithful Catholic thinks of the Forty Hours is self-evident. Though we have many and various devotions throughout the year, we lovingly wait for the coming of our Forty Hours Devotion. I hope as you hear when Forty Hours will be celebrated, your heart skips a beat and a smile and feeling of pleasant anticipation will take possession of you. So, in evidence of our delight, we immediately turn to action.

First, we begin by giving the Church a thorough cleaning to make it spick and span! The walls, the pews, the floors will be waxed, etc. How about the Altar and Sanctuary? They will receive a good dusting and washing and freshly laundered and ironed Altar linens are placed upon it with a beautiful antependium to adorn its front. All spotless and ironed to perfection! The candlesticks do not escape our scrutiny. They are scraped of accumulated wax and brand-new candles are put in them. The candles our First Communicants presented on their First Holy Communion Day last May are placed in the candelabras representing their innocence and love for Jesus.



**W**e bring flowers and more flowers whose scents fill our Church edifice and raise our mind and thoughts Heavenward. Mothers at home are busy washing and ironing the white dresses and shirts, their First Communion Children will again wear in Procession. For weeks ahead of the Forty Hours, all that mother hears is the “procession.”

Do not, for a moment, forget your Pastor for he also spends some solicitous moments. Upon him depends the good order for the Forty Hours. He must first arrange for a suitable Preacher and he knows he must be good and sound in Orthodoxy, for his Parishioners expect something special for the Forty Hours. The choice is one of his big concerns. Then he must issue the invitations to visiting Clergy and as host he must see to it that a proper table is set – one that will do honor to him and to his Parishioners.

The dual role of Martha and Mary falls on the Pastor. The task is also his to see that in the Church everything is as it should be and while solicitous about the spiritual side of the Forty Hours, he indeed, acts the part of Mary. In trying to fulfill his duties as host to visiting Clergy he becomes the Martha, worrying himself about a multitude of household cares. And, so, it becomes a familiar sight for the people of the Parish during the Forty Hours to see their Pastor running all day and night between the Church and the Rectory.

You may be sure he is the last one to leave the Church after assuring himself that all the candles are extinguished and that the Altar boys in their haste have not thrown the hot charcoal from the thurifer into the trash can!

With this confidence that no danger of fire to the Church exists, he murmurs, “Good night Jesus” and betakes himself to the Rectory for a night of deserved rest, for it will be the Pastor who will be up bright and early for the 8:00 a.m. morning Prayer, Lauds and Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

This is all said merely to refresh our minds and to make the picture somewhat clearer as to what we, the devout Faithful think of the Forty Hours Devotion. All these necessary preparations with the accompanying worry and anxiety, lovingly and willingly undertaken by all, go to prove that we love the Forty Hours Devotion and that in the life of our beautiful Parish it is one of the most important events of the year.



## FORTY HOURS DEVOTION

### *How to Make a Holy Hour*



The following is just a suggestion as to how to make a Holy Hour. It may be divided into a half hour of silence and a half hour of vocal prayer.

1. First 15 minutes – The Rosary
2. Next 15 minutes – Quiet Prayer and Meditation
3. Next 15 minutes – Prayer of Divine Love
4. Last 15 minutes – Quiet Prayer and Meditation

#### *Appropriateness of These Prayers*

The Church imparts a Plenary Indulgence to those who pray the Rosary before the Most Blessed Sacrament. People all over the world find the Divine Love Prayer very spiritually beneficial since it combines all the Gospel values. Because the Most Blessed Sacrament is the Throne of Mercy, the Divine Mercy Prayer is an effective way of asking God to embrace all mankind with His merciful love.

#### *The Divine Love Prayer*

Prayed on the beads of the Holy Rosary, this inspirational prayer is very easy to learn and to follow. Each prayer is repeated ten times, followed by a "Glory Be." This Divine Love Prayer to the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus takes only seven to ten minutes to pray. It is prayed as follows: "Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, we adore You and we praise You in union with the Nine Choirs of Angels." This is repeated ten times, followed by a "Glory Be."

Below are some additional prayers that may be said on your Rosary beads:

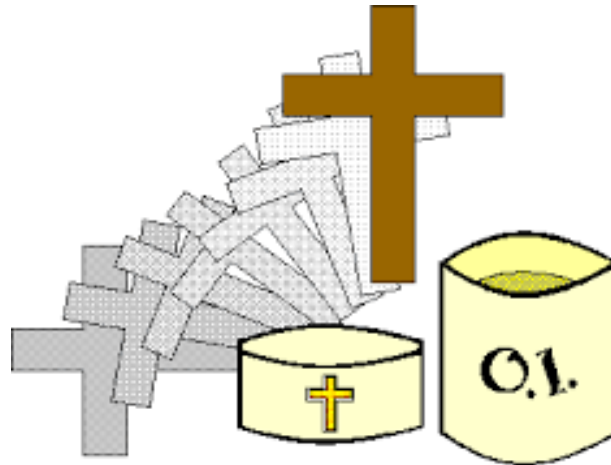
1. Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, we adore You and we praise You – **in union with the Nine Choirs of Angels!**
2. Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, burning with love for us – **in flame our hearts with love for You!**
3. Eucharistic Heart of Jesus – **Thy Kingdom come!**
4. Eucharistic Heart of Jesus – make us one in mind, heart and will – **with You, the Father and the Holy Spirit.**
5. Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, gentle and humble of Heart – **make our hearts like unto Thine.**
6. Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, through the Infinite value of each Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, offered now and until the end of time – **have mercy on us and on the whole world!**
7. Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, thank you – **for the personal love You have for me in the Blessed Sacrament**
8. Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, with all my heart – **I Love You!**
9. Eucharistic Heart of Jesus – **I put all my trust in You!**

Jesus will spend all Eternity thanking you and loving you in Heaven for your faithful commitment on Earth of spending one hour with Him in the Blessed Sacrament. This hour Jesus wants you to spend with Him is spent any way you want. You may bring your own prayer books, use the books in the Church, read the Bible, pray the Rosary or just sit and relax and enjoy the sweet peace that comes from simply being in the presence of God. You may feel you can't pray well. Don't let this discourage you. The mere fact that you take time out, at a specific time, to spend an hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament pleases Him very much and is in itself a prayer of great Faith.



**CAN YOU NOT WATCH ONE  
HOUR WITH ME?**

# THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND THE FORTY HOURS



## Sacrament of Anointing

**Sunday, October 21, 2018**

**O**n Sunday, October 21, 2018 at 4:00 PM we will open our Parish celebration of Forty Hours Devotion i.e., Solemn Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

We, the Priests of St. Gianna Beretta Molla Parish, invite you to be *a part* of these three very special days. They are days filled with Spiritual growth for you and your loved ones.

We will begin with our celebration on Sunday, October 21st at 4:00 PM with the Sacrament of the Sick.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is, as the words of St. James make clear, for the sick! It is no longer considered Last Rites. This Sacrament is for anyone who is sick, i.e., chronic sickness and also for anyone over the age of 65. In the Sacrament of the Sick, the Church extends the healing Hand of Christ to the sick. It is an encounter with Christ the Healer, Christ the Divine Physician. The woman in the Gospel was eager to touch only the Lord's cloak. "If I touch even His garment," she thought, "I shall be made well." The sick person today "touches" Him and experiences His power through the Sacramental Anointing.



This Sacrament is NOT for people who are dead. It is for anyone who is ill. Won't you join us and welcome Christ into your life in this unique way? What more beautiful way to begin our "Forty Hours" than by recognizing Jesus, the Bread of Life, reserved in the Most Blessed Sacrament for our adoration and for the sick.

**TIME TO FIND PEACE IN YOUR HEART**

**40 HOUR**

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND DEVOTION**



**Sunday, October 21 through Tuesday, October 23, 2018**

**MR. CARLO SANTA TERESA, PREACHER**

**Sunday, October 21, 2018**

4:00 PM Anointing of the Sick Mass

**4:00 – 10:00 PM: Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament**

**7:00 – 8:00 PM: Confessions**

**10:00 PM: Night Prayers**

**Monday, October 22, 2018**

**8:00 AM: Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament**

**7:00 PM: Mass for Vocations and Investiture of the Knights of the Altar & Daughters of Mary**

**10:00 PM: Night Prayer**

**Tuesday, October 23, 2018**

**8:00 AM: Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament**

**7:00 PM: Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving and Procession with the Most Blessed Sacrament**