

The *Instructio Clementina* for the *Quarant' Ore* which has been already mentioned stands almost alone among rubrical documents in the minuteness of detail into which it enters. It has also been made the subject of an elaborate commentary by Gardellini.

Only a few details can be given here.

The Blessed Sacrament is always, except in the patriarchal basilicas, to be exposed upon the high altar. Statues, pictures, and relics in the immediate neighborhood are to be removed or covered.

At least twenty candles are to be kept burning day and night.

The altar of exposition is only to be tended by clerics wearing surplices. Everything is to be done, e.g. by hanging curtains at the doorways, by prohibiting the solicitation of alms, etc., to promote recollection and silence.

There must be continuous relays of watchers before the Blessed Sacrament; and these, if possible, should include a priest or cleric in higher orders who alone is permitted to kneel within the sanctuary.

At night the great doors of the church must be closed.

No Masses must be said at the altar at which the Blessed Sacrament is exposed.

Precise regulations are made as to the Masses to be said at the time of Exposition and Deposition.

As already intimated, the Mass pro pace is to be sung on the second day of the Exposition; and the litanies of the saints are to be chanted under conditions minutely specified, at the conclusion of the procession both at the opening and close of the *Quarant' Ore*.

Finally it may be said that this *Instructio Clementina* is the foundation upon which is based the ritual for all ordinary Benedictions and Expositions.

For example, the incensing of the Blessed Sacrament at the words *Genitori Genitoque* of the *Tantum Ergo*, the use of the humeral veil, and the giving of the Blessing with the monstrance, etc., are all exactly prescribed in section thirty-one of the same document.

CHAPTER VII: FORTY HOURS ADORATION LITANY, PRAYERS, AND SUFFRAGES AT EXPOSITION AND REPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Where the Forty Hours Adoration is Celebrated According to the Clementine Instruction

I. EXPOSITION

1. For the solemn exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Forty Hours prayer, first the solemn votive Mass of the Blessed Sacrament is celebrated according to the Instruction of the S. C. R., issued on April 7, 1927, which is likewise to be followed for the other Masses during this devotion. Consult also the new Code of Rubrics of July 26, 1960.
2. At the end of the solemn Mass the procession with the Blessed Sacrament is held inside the church, during which the hymn Sing, my tongue, the Saviour's glory is sung (see below), as far as the verse Down in adoration falling exclusive. The hymn may be repeated until the end of the procession.

At the end of the Litany the celebrant stands and sings the orations:

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: May He also be with you.

Let us pray.

God, who left us in this wondrous sacrament a memorial of your passion, help us, we beg you, so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your body and blood, that we may always experience the effects of your redemption.

Almighty everlasting God, be gracious to your servant, N., our sovereign Pontiff, and in your kindness lead him on the path of everlasting salvation; may he by your grace seek only that which pleases you and carry it out with all his might.

God, our refuge and our strength and source of all goodness, heed the holy prayers of your Church, and grant that we fully obtain whatever we ask for in faith.

Almighty everlasting God, who will the salvation of every man and would have no one perish; see how many souls are deceived by the wiles of the devil and how their hearts are gone astray; help them to escape the evils of heresy, to repent and to return to the unity of your truth.

Almighty everlasting God, Lord of both the living and the dead; deal mercifully with all whom you foresee shall be yours by faith and good works. Hear us, your lowly servants, and grant that those for whom we earnestly offer our prayers, whether this present world still detains them in the flesh or the world to come has already claimed their souls, may obtain pardon of all their sins, through your mercy and goodness and through the intercession of your saints. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

All: Amen.

P: Lord, heed my prayer.

All: And let my cry be heard by you.

P: May the almighty and merciful Lord graciously hear us.

All: And may He ever preserve us. Amen.

P: May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

All: Amen.

If the papacy is vacant, in place of the invocation "That you graciously preserve our Holy Father and all orders of the Church," etc., the invocation will be "That you graciously preserve all orders of the Church," etc. And the verse "Let us pray for our Sovereign Pontiff, N.," together with its response and prayer is omitted.

II. REPOSITION

1. At the reposition of the Blessed Sacrament on the third day, after the celebration of the solemn votive Mass as on the first day, the celebrant removes his chasuble and maniple at the sedilia. Having put on the cope he returns to the altar, genuflects on both knees, and then kneels on the lowest step.
2. The Litany of the Saints is sung together with psalm 69 and the prayers that follow, as far as "The Lord be with you" exclusive. Then the Blessed Sacrament is taken from the throne and placed on the altar: having put incense in two thuribles for the procession, the celebrant incenses the Blessed Sacrament as usual.
3. Then the procession with the Blessed Sacrament takes place in church as on the first day, and the hymn "Sing my tongue" is sung as far as the verse "Down in adoration" exclusive.
4. At the end of the procession the Blessed Sacrament is placed on the altar table, and the chanters intone "Down in adoration" and all join in singing the last two verses. The celebrant again incenses the Blessed Sacrament as usual.
5. Afterward the versicle is sung:

Chanters: You have given them the bread of heaven (Alleluia).

All: Which has all delight within it (Alleluia).

Then the celebrant stands and sings Let us pray.

God, who left us in this wondrous sacrament, etc., and all the other prayers sung on the first day at exposition, up to and including May the souls, etc. Then the blessing with the Blessed Sacrament is given in the usual way and the sacred host is replaced in the tabernacle.

Courtesy of: Rosary Coast to Coast (USA)