

O Paradise! When will my hour of Paradise Come?

Such was the expression of Blessed Louis Guanella during his agony, a real human being struck by terrible pain, but secure in his Lord whom he loved so much and was eager to meet for all eternity.



At the last moment, with his spiritual sons and daughters around his bed of pain, praying and crying, he received the Holy Eucharist and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. A few seconds before his final departure, he opened his eyes and looked to his dear Priests, Brothers, and Sisters. Giving a smile, our beloved Father Guanella expired at 2:15 P.M., October 24, 1915. He was seventy two years, ten months and five days old.

Many were the illnesses which caused the inexorable dissolution of his strong physical constitution. He suffered many unknown afflictions, both in body and spirit. God permitted that he be attacked by inexpressible spiritual pain. In his way the Lord sometimes purifies and sanctifies the heroes of this life. How many times the holy sick man was heard to say,

“O Paradise! When will my hour of Paradise come? ... My God, have mercy on me! Ah, sin must be a great evil since it has caused man such atrocious torments! ... O blessed Pius X, come to my aid! ... O Catherine, my holy sister, open Paradise for me! ... My heart be made immaculate in your justice, Lord, so that I may not be confounded! ... I trust in you, O God, may I not be confounded forever!”

**We, the spiritual children of
Blessed Louis Guanella, keep, in memory of his death,
The prayer to St. Joseph, so dear to his heart
For the salvation of souls.**

**“O St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus Christ and true spouse of the Virgin Mary,
pray for us and for the suffering and dying of today”**

