

October 14, 2020

Hello to Wednesday,

The Blessed Sacrament will not be exposed after Mass due to the funeral of Mr. Jack Stein. Please pray for his soul and ask God to give strength to his family.

1. Today's Readings: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/101420.cfm>

2. ***The RE Corner with Jan Heithaus:*** St. Callistus I, Pope and Martyr
The saint today is an early pope and martyr. His interaction with St. Hippolytus makes for an interesting story in church history. Unlike Hippolytus, Callistus believed that saints and sinners grew up together in the Church. It was the Church's duty to offer reconciliation to anyone seeking forgiveness of sins committed after baptism. Because a famous catacomb is named for Saint Callistus, he is often honored as the patron of cemetery workers.

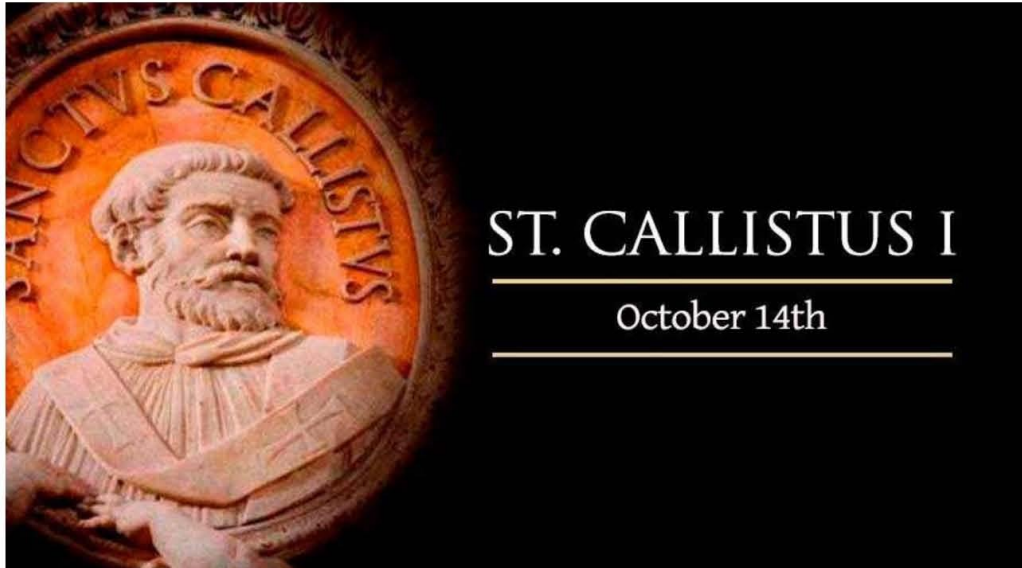
3. Quote of the Day: "What prevents us from receiving more abundant graces from God may be quite simply our not being sufficiently grateful and not thanking him for the graces he has already given us. There is no doubt that if we thank God with all our heart for each grace received, especially for the inspirations [of the Holy Spirit], he will grant us more."—*Fr. Jacques Philippe*

May we be forever grateful for God's blessings! We are grateful and thankful for all of our parishioners!

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The most reliable information about this saint comes from his enemy Saint Hippolytus, an early antipope, later a martyr for the Church. A negative principle is used: If some worse things had happened, Hippolytus would surely have mentioned them.

Callistus was a slave in the imperial Roman household. Put in charge of the bank by his master, he lost the money deposited, fled, and was caught. After serving time for a while, he was released to make some attempt to recover the money. Apparently he carried his zeal too far, being arrested for brawling in a Jewish synagogue. This time he was condemned to work in the mines of Sardinia. Through the influence of the emperor's mistress he was released and went to live at Anzio.

After winning his freedom, Callistus was made superintendent of the public Christian burial ground in Rome—still called the cemetery of Saint Callistus—probably the first land owned by the Church. The pope ordained him a deacon and made him his friend and adviser.

Callistus was elected pope by a majority vote of the clergy and laity of Rome, and thereafter was bitterly attacked by the losing candidate, Saint Hippolytus, who let himself be set up as the first antipope in the history of the Church. The schism lasted about 18 years.

Parish Office Communication

Hippolytus is venerated as a saint. He was banished during the persecution of 235 and was reconciled to the Church. He died from his sufferings in Sardinia. He attacked Callistus on two fronts—doctrine and discipline. Hippolytus seems to have exaggerated the distinction between Father and Son—almost making two gods—possibly because theological language had not yet been refined.

Callistus was martyred during a local disturbance in Trastevere, Rome, and is the first pope—except for Peter—to be commemorated as a martyr in the earliest martyrology of the Church.

Source: fransicanmedia.org