

Daily Parish Communication

October 27, 2022

Good Morning All,

~Day 4: Novena for Holy Souls in Purgatory (attached)

~~**Last day for selfies for the Parish Picture Directory. Send information to Kate Edwards at [kate.edwards@sjccs.net](mailto:kate.edwards@sjccs.net).**

~Holy Family Group - Reminder that this weekend is the Trunk or Treat event from 1-3pm on Saturday! Volunteer helpers are still needed, although we have enough candy for the event. If you are interested in helping, please reach out to Savanna ([savannakeefe@gmail.com](mailto:savannakeefe@gmail.com)).

~Holy Family Group - Save the Date - November 12th from 9:00-12:00! 17 Crafting Tables and a Bake Sale too! (Flyer attached)

1. Today's Readings: [Thursday of the Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time | USCCB](#)

2. The RE Corner with Jan Heithaus: Pope St. Eleutherius was pope from c. 175 to c. 189. He served Pope Anicetus as deacon and received a visit from Irenaeus of Lyons, who spoke of the dangers of montanism, a heresy that Eleutherius seems to have taken lightly. Originally from Nilopolis in Epirus, he was interested in the church in the British Isles, and while the legend that an English king Lucius sought baptism from Eleutherius may be a fiction, the pope did send a mission to the British.

3. Quote of the Day:

~"He loves, He hopes, He waits. If He came down on our altars on certain days only, some sinner, on being moved to repentance, might have to look for Him, and not finding Him, might have to wait. Our Lord prefers to wait Himself for the sinner for years rather than keep him waiting one instant." *St. Julian Peter Eymard*

***Pope St. Eleutherius, Pray for Us!***  
***St. Joseph, Pray for Us!***

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**ST. JOSEPH'S HOLY FAMILY GROUP IS  
SPONSORING A**  
**Holiday Craft Fair**

**NOVEMBER 12, 2022**

**9:00 AM - 12:00 PM IN FATHER FRIEND HALL**

**RAIN OR SHINE**

Over 17 tables worth of crafts including religious items, papercrafts, woodcrafts, pottery, jewelry, stained glass and much more. Come out and support your fellow parishioners while picking up handmade gifts for the holidays. Cash friendly.

## **Novena for the Holy Souls in Purgatory**

Our Catholic Faith teaches us the souls of the faithful departed must be entirely purified before they enter into eternal rest in Heaven. The souls of most people who have died in friendship with God must be purified in Purgatory. The holy souls in Purgatory are in great need of our prayers. You can pray the Novena for the Holy Souls in Purgatory for a deceased relative or friend. Or you can pray for a deceased group of people, such as victims of a natural disaster. Or you can use it to pray for all people who have died from a specific ailment. On each of the nine days of prayer, we meditate on the suffering that each and every soul must endure in purgatory and pray a prayer specific to that day. We conclude with the Prayer to Our Suffering Savior for the Souls in Purgatory, the Hail Mary and Our Father.

### **Prayer to our Suffering Savior for the Souls in Purgatory**

O most sweet Jesus, through the bloody sweat which Thou didst suffer in the Garden of Gethsemane, have mercy on these Blessed Souls. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which Thou didst suffer during Thy most cruel scourging, have mercy on them. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which Thou didst suffer in Thy most painful crowning with thorns, have mercy on them. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which Thou didst suffer in carrying Thy cross to Calvary, have mercy on them. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which Thou didst suffer during Thy most cruel Crucifixion, have mercy on them. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which Thou didst suffer in Thy most bitter agony on the Cross, have mercy on them. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

O most sweet Jesus, through the immense pain which Thou didst suffer in breathing forth Thy Blessed Soul, have mercy on them. Have mercy on them, O Lord.”

(As you pray for the Souls in purgatory, state your intention(s) here

Blessed Souls, I have prayed for thee; I entreat thee, who are so dear to God, and who are secure of never losing Him, to pray for me a miserable sinner, who is in danger of being damned, and of losing God forever. Amen.

Day 4

Meditation/Reflection – The grief of having offended and betrayed God and Jesus, is so over whelming that it tears at the very soul. In purgatory, this truth can not be ignored, as each soul sees firsthand, the anguish that their sins have put God through.

Prayer: “My God! because Thou art infinite goodness, I am sorry with my whole heart for having offended Thee. I promise to die rather than ever offend Thee more. Give me holy perseverance; have pity on me, and have pity on those holy souls that burn in the cleansing fire and love Thee with all their hearts. O Mary, Mother of God, assist them by thy powerful prayers.”

Followed by: Prayer to Our Suffering Savior, Our Father, Hail Mary



## **POPE ST. ELEUTHERIUS**

Pope St. Eleutherius was a Greek, son of Habundius, born in Nicopolis, part of what is now Greece, sometime after 100 AD. His name means “frank, honest, free-spirited”. Whether that is his real name, or a description of the man, is unknown. Eleutherius was Bishop of Rome from about 175 to May 24, 189 AD. It is said that he was martyred at that time.

Eleutherius, according to Hegesippus, the first Christian writer, was a deacon under Pope St. Anicetus and he stayed on after the death of that pope (c. 166). He succeeded Pope St. Soter and was influential during the reigns of Marcus Aurelius (d. 180) and his son Commodus (d. 192). Marcus Aurelius was fairly tolerant of Christians, although he was a pagan. But there were a number of prefects who took matters into their own hands and had local persecutions.

The biggest problem Eleutherius had to face was the continuing problem of the Montanists, also known as the “New Prophecy” and the Marcionists. These were groups of people who described themselves as Christians but tended to claim that the Holy Spirit was directing them to do and say things not adopted by the orthodox church. In many ways, they were similar to the Pentecostals of today. However, with their fasting and ascetic ways, it was difficult to piece together whether they

were actually heretical or not. The most embarrassing activities they held were their large public displays of ecstatic prophesying.

In 177, Eleutherius received a letter from the Church at Lyon, France, asking him to consider carefully the Marcionists, to show mercy but to not compromise in his dealing. The letter was delivered by the deacon, Ireneus, who shortly became the bishop of Lyon. It appears that either Eleutherius or his successor, Victor, actually wrote letters of support for this group, but recalled the letters based on further information.

An example of their displays is thus: “‘And he [Montanus] became beside himself and being suddenly in a sort of frenzy and ecstasy, he raved, and began to babble and utter strange things, prophesying in a manner contrary to the constant custom of the Church handed down by tradition from the beginning.’ The Montanist prophets did not speak as messengers of God but were described as possessed by God while being unable to resist. A prophetic utterance by Montanus described this possessed state: ‘Lo, the man is as a lyre, and I fly over him as a pick. The man sleepeth, while I watch.’” (from Wikipedia)

Due to the hesitancy on the part of the Roman Church, Tertullian came out in favor of the New Prophecy in 205, yet never converted. Meanwhile, many of the bishops in Asia Minor, where the heresy began, were totally against the sect early on. They had synods and wrote letters, disclaiming the followers. Eventually, the followers of Montanus claimed that he, himself was the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete, sent from Jesus to guide and direct the Church. That was the beginning of the end for this heresy.

Some references say he was martyred, others that he died a natural death. In either case, Pope Eleutherius was buried on Vatican Hill after his death, near other popes. They were moved to the Church of Saint Susanna in 1591, at the request of Camilla Peretti, sister of Pope Sixtus V.

*Source: lanternariuspress.net*