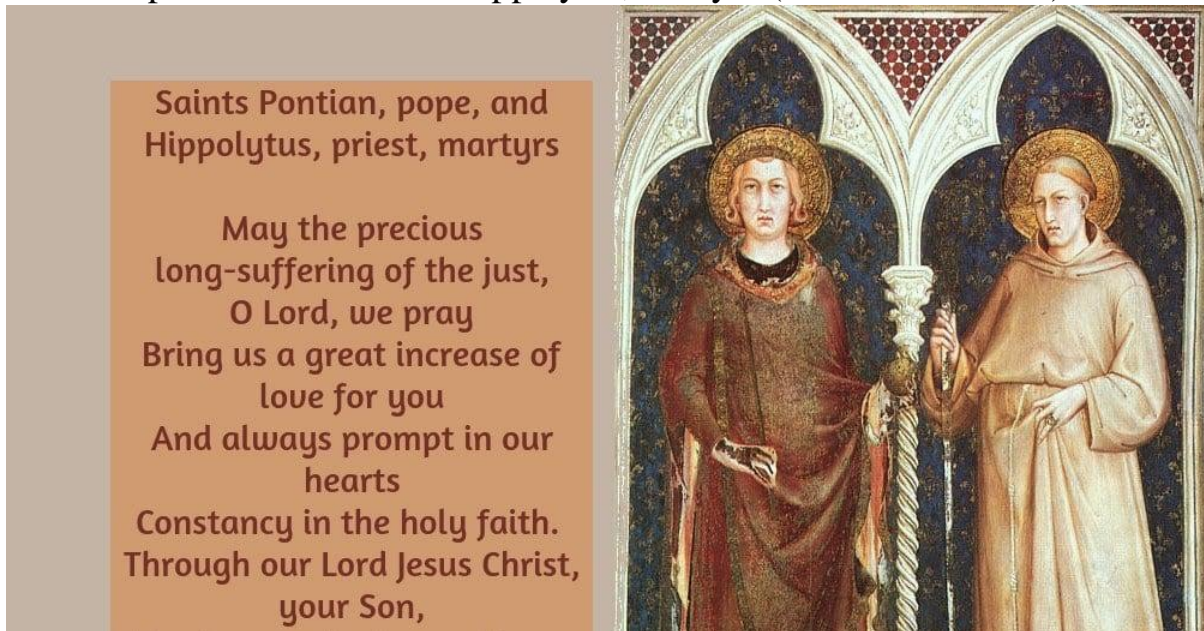


Saints Pope Pontian & Father Hippolytus, Martyrs (died circa 235 AD)



<https://anastpaul.com/2017/08/13/saints-of-the-day-13-august-st-pope-pontian-and-st-hippolytus-martyrs/>

"Pontian was elected Roman Pontiff in 230." Arrested by decree of Emperor Maximinus in 235 during renewed anti-Christian persecution by the state, Pope Pontian was exiled to a slow death in the copper mines of Sardinia. But before doing so, thinking of CHRIST and The Church first, he magnanimously resigned The Seat of Saint Peter, so that another Bishop could take his place as Pope.

Father Hippolytus was perhaps the then foremost Biblical scholar in The Church. He wrote commentary on Scripture, dogma, law, apologetics, CHRIST, "A Refutation of All Heresies," as well as recording the Liturgy and prayers of The Mass from his era in "Apostolic Traditions," which form the basis of much of Catholic Mass Liturgy and prayers throughout the world even today.

From his Church in Rome, Fr. Hippolytus opposed what he saw as lax readmittance of the "Lapsi," those Christians who publicly renounced The Faith under pain of persecution, torture and execution during prior pagan Roman government persecutions. This eventually brought him into direct conflict with Pope Pontian.

By 235, when Pope Callixtus expanded the readmission to The Church of Lapsi Christians, open schism arose in The Body of CHRIST. Father Hippolytus was elected as the first "anti-Pope" by some of The Church in protest.

None-the-less, Father Hippolytus also found himself also banished in short order by the same tyrannical Emperor Maximinus to the "living death" of the labor mines in Sardinia that same year.

<https://mycatholic.life/saints/saints-of-the-liturgical-year/august-13-saints-pontian-pope-and-hippolytus-priest-martyrs/>

In those same death mines of Sardinia, before their martyrdoms for The Faith, both Pope Pontian and Father Hippolytus met again. The two Churchmen forgave one another, became friends, and Father Hippolytus was reconciled officially to The Church thereafter.

Both men's bodies were later returned to Rome and buried with equal honors befitting dedicated Ordained leader servants of our Lord JESUS CHRIST and His Catholic Church.

"So let us not be at enmity with ourselves, but change our way of life without delay. For CHRIST, Who is GOD, exalted above all creation, has taken away man's sin and has refashioned our fallen nature. GOD is not beggarly, and for The Sake of His Own Glory, He has given us a share in His Divinity. (Saint Hippolytus)." \*

Saint Pope Pontian and Saint Father Hippolytus, pray for us, The Church of CHRIST, that we may follow The Way of our Lord with all faithfulness, fervor, love and forgiveness ~ whatever forms of martyrdom The Almighty may call us to follow in this life ~ that we may behold The Beauty of The Face of GOD in Heaven in the next. Amen!

PSALM 86:2-7

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c7AIf--i1Y0&list=RDC7AIf--i1Y0&start\\_radio=1&rv=c7AIf--i1Y0&t=0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c7AIf--i1Y0&list=RDC7AIf--i1Y0&start_radio=1&rv=c7AIf--i1Y0&t=0)

Savior JESUS, Thou art my strong tower and rampart!

2 ...O Thou my GOD, save Thy servant that trusteth in Thee.

3 Be merciful unto me, O LORD: for I cry unto Thee daily.

4 Rejoice the soul of Thy servant: for unto Thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul. Savior JESUS, Thou art my strong tower and rampart!

5 For Thou, LORD, art Good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in Mercy unto all them that call upon Thee.

6 Give ear, O LORD, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my

supplications. 7 In the day of my trouble I will call upon Thee: for Thou wilt answer me.

\*["Saints Pontian and Hippolytus." The Magnificat, 8/13/2021. Optional memorial, p 166.]