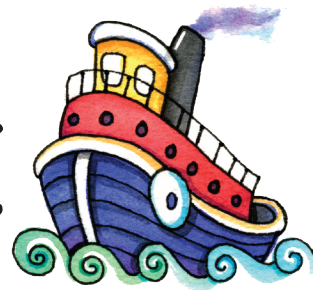


# The Catholic Tugboat

A Children's Guide to God



October 9, 2016; Cycle C, 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Volume II, Issue 46

## Bible Secrets



The man healed by Elisha in the First Reading today was a Syrian and the commander of the Syrian army. This made him a foreigner to Elisha and his people. In the Gospel Jesus healed ten lepers, but only one returned to say thank you. He was a Samaritan which made him a foreigner, too.

Others in the Jewish community looked down on him because he was an outsider.

Why are outsiders often the hero? Foreigners and outsiders are shown as special when their hearts are open to God's Word. At this time, God's chosen people, the Hebrews, weren't open to Jesus. They thought that being chosen by God made them better than everybody else and they didn't have to do anything to get closer to God.

Jesus was sent to remind everyone that God's chosen are those who have hearts open to him.



## Catholic I.D.

### 1ST THEME OF THE SOCIAL DOCTRINES:

### *RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES*

One idea that is found in all the social teachings of the Church is the concept of "rights and responsibilities." Because we are created by God in his likeness and image we are to respect the rights of others like

we do our

own. Also,

we cannot

ignore the

responsibilities

that come with

our rights. We must

act to preserve the good of the community.

For example, we have the right of religious freedom, to live our Christian faith. We have the right to justice, or a fair trial. But, we also have responsibilities that go along with these rights. For instance, we are responsible for being good citizens. We obey the laws; we pay taxes; we vote; and, we volunteer. Sometimes, we even protest to correct a wrong. Above all, we must participate. It is our duty "to contribute... to the good of society in a spirit of truth, justice... and freedom." (CCC 2239)





## Stars of Our Faith

Callistus was a high ranking servant in a household where he was greatly trusted. He was put in charge of investing money for Christian charity. But, the investment failed and Callistus was blamed. He was innocent but he tried to run away. He was caught, demoted, and assigned to hard physical labor. He came to Rome as a lowly slave.

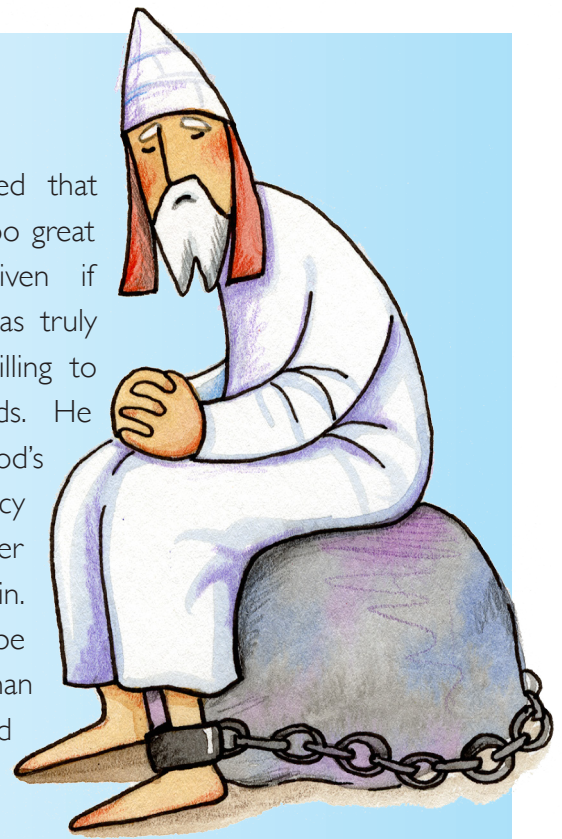
Because he proclaimed his Christianity loudly, Callistus was assigned to work in the mines. This was a hard, dangerous, and dirty job. Eventually he was freed and decided to become a deacon. He did well and was put in charge of taking care of a Christian cemetery in Rome.

Here he even became an advisor to the Pope. As he was seen more in the presence of the Pope, he became a natural choice to replace his friend when he died.

As Pope in the early 200s, Callistus made many enemies among the priests and deacons in Rome.

He maintained that no sin was too great to be forgiven if the sinner was truly sorry and willing to make amends. He said that God's divine mercy was greater than any sin. Sadly, Pope Callistus, a man who preached about God's great mercy,

was killed by an anti-Christian group and became a martyr for the Faith. We remember this saint's life on October 14.



## The Tugboat Challenge

### True or false:

- \_\_\_ 1. Elisha healed the ten lepers.
- \_\_\_ 2. All ten of the lepers came back to thank Jesus.
- \_\_\_ 3. The Jews believed they were God's chosen people.
- \_\_\_ 4. Pope Callistus taught that there were some sins that were too great to be forgiven.
- \_\_\_ 5. We are to respect the rights of others as we do our own.



Answers: 1. F 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

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