

Introducing the International Catacomb Society Digitized Archives Project (DAPICS):

The International Catacomb Society website (www.catacombsociety.org) is the leading English-language source of information about Jewish and Christian catacombs, and is employed by many schools and institutions as a trusted reference and research tool.

Nearly all online services and virtual experiences are free, except for our digital image archives, which are available to members of the International Catacomb Society for a nominal fee. Current website features include:

- Directory of Jewish and Christian catacombs in Italy and other areas of the Mediterranean, routinely updated and extended to include other types of ancient burial grounds of the same era, plus contact information for arranging visits to individual sites.
- Digital exhibition, "Vaults of Memory," on Jewish and Christian iconography in the catacombs of Rome
- Image bank containing approximately 5,000 photographic images that have been digitized and organized into several collections on our website. The strengths of these archives include reproductions of paintings and epigraphy from the catacombs of Rome and visual documentation from other sites that conserve examples of Jewish and Christian iconography.
- Online glossary and bibliography on the catacombs.
- Directories of research institutions, epigraphic databases, and digital image databases that assist with research in this area of study.
- Updates (with links to social media) covering professional and networking opportunities in the field, special site openings, the latest research and discoveries, and more.

The recent upgrade and expansion of our image banks adds thousands of images and a customized search engine. These features, together with our careful monitoring of the site content and frequent postings of new developments in the field, are possible thanks to our international team of scholars and professionals who are deeply involved in the launch and continuing success of our mission.

To meet user demand for its resources, the ICS has created the "Institutional" category of membership designed to allow staff and students of a single institution unlimited use of

our image databases for a small nnual fee. Institutional membership also enables scholars at the member institution to apply for the Shohet Scholars Grant, providing funding of up to \$30,000 annually for research on the Ancient Mediterranean from the Hellenistic through Late Roman eras.

Please visit <u>www.catacombsociety.org</u> to learn more about the benefits Institutional Membership to the ICS can provide to your organization.

The International Catacomb Society is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, or public charity, under section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the U.S.A. Internal Revenue code (#04-2693671). Verification of our status can be obtained online at IRS Exempt Organizations Select Check or by calling the IRS (toll-free) at 1-877-829-5500.