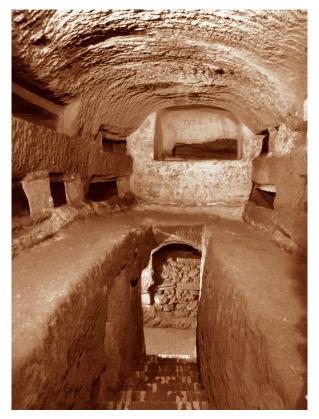


Catacomb of St Pancrazio

Heart of a man, body of a child



"[...] Pancrazio answered [to Diocletian]: "Although my appearance is that of a child, the heart in my chest is that of a mature man [...]. Codice Vaticano Latino 5771

The first nucleus of the St Pancrazio complex stems from a previous Roman public cemetery dating to the 1st century AC. The catacomb, in written sources also referred to as 'Coemeterium Otcavillae', developed side-by-side to an exposed sub-surface area as well as to an underground area composed of four regiones (sections), still in use today.

Currently, the decorations within the complex are in a poor state of conservation due to the constant use of the catacombs over the years. Nonetheless, the catacomb provides several notable examples of impressivelymade funerary architecture (ramps, stairs, retro sancta rooms, barrel vaults and arcosoli) as well as many testimonies on the important cultic worship linked to the figure of St Pancrazio. Download the brochure