

November 23, 2021

Good Morning All,

~Our reorder of Dominican Mission Manuals related to Fr. Mullady's Parish Mission has arrived. Please contact the Parish Office to secure your copy today. Limited quantities! \$5.00 each

~There are still 18 angels on our tree in the Narthex. Gifts are due back on December 5th - please consider helping out others at this time of the year!

~Advent begins this Sunday! We still have a few Advent goodies for your family (Advent calendars and candles). \$10 each

1. Today's Readings: [Tuesday of the Thirty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time | USCCB](#)

2. The RE Corner with Jan Heithaus: In addition to being a Tuesday in Ordinary time on the Church calendar, we have the option of celebrating 3 different saints today. Because of his importance to the early Church, we will look at St. Clement I. He is one of our earliest popes, a Father of the Church and a martyr.

3. Quotes of the Day: *St. Clement I*

~"Let us fix our gaze on the blood of Christ, realizing how precious it is to his Father, since it was shed for our salvation and brought the grace of repentance to all the world."

"For whatever our transgressions...let us pray that we may be forgiven, for it is good for a man to confess his failings rather than to harden his heart...you, therefore, who laid the foundation of the rebellion, submit to the presbyters and be chastened to repentance, bending your knees in a spirit of humility." *Letter to the Corinthians written ca 96 a.d.*

~"Let us therefore join with those to whom grace is given by God. Let us clothe ourselves in concord, being humble and self-controlled, keeping ourselves far from all backbiting and slander, being justified by works and not by words...Why was our Father Abraham blessed? Was it not because of his deeds of justice and truth, wrought in faith?" *First Letter of Clement to the Corinthians 30:3 31:2 Written ca 80-96 a.d.*

St. Clement I, Pray for Us!

St. Joseph, Pray for Us!

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Linda McCormick
St. Joseph Catholic Church & School
1200 Cornelia Road
Anderson, SC 29621

Phone: (864) 225-5341, ext. 102

Fax: (864) 225-6432

Clement of Rome (died 110 A.D.)

The Fathers of the Church spread the gospel of Jesus Christ, defended the Church in apologetic writing and fought the many heresies of the first six centuries of Christianity. These men, also called Apostolic Fathers, gave special witness to the faith, some dying the death of a martyr. Like Jesus who referred to Abraham as a spiritual father (Luke 16: 24) and St. Paul, who referred to himself in the same terms (1 Cor 4: 15), the Fathers were zealous for the word of God. St. Clement of Alexandria, himself a "Father of the Church" wrote, "Words are the progeny of the soul. Hence we call those that instructed us fathers" (*Stromateis* 1.1.2-2.1). Their writings are a testimony to the faith of the early Church, yet many Christians are unfamiliar with the work of Clement of Rome, Ignatius of Antioch, Polycarp of Smyrna, Justin the Martyr, Irenaeus, Tertullian, Origen, Cyprian of Carthage, Athanasius, Ephraim, Cyril of Jerusalem, Hilary of Poitiers or Gregory the Great to name a few of the early Fathers.



Saint Clement, by Tiepolo

St. Clement of Rome was the third successor of Peter the Apostle as bishop of Rome, and therefore, our fourth Pope. St. Irenaeus, himself a Father of the Early Church, tells us that Clement "saw the blessed Apostles and conversed with them, and had yet ringing in his ears the preaching of the Apostles and had their tradition before his eyes, and not he only for many were then surviving who had been taught by the Apostles". Similarly, Epiphanius tells us that Clement was a contemporary of Peter and Paul. His service as Bishop of Rome was probably from about 92-101 A.D. There is a tradition that he was ordained by St. Peter and acted as a kind of auxiliary bishop to Linus and Anacletus, his predecessors in the papal chair.

The legend of the martyrdom of S. Clement relates that, in the reign of Trajan, when Mamertinus was prefect of the city, and Toractianus count of the offices, a sedition arose among the rabble of Rome against the Christians, and especially against

Clement, bishop of Rome. Mamertinus interfered to put down the riot, and having arrested Clement, sent him to the emperor, who ordered his banishment to Pontus, where he was condemned to work in the marble quarries. He found many Christians among his fellow-convicts, and comforted and encouraged them. The only spring of drinking water was six miles off, and it was a great hardship to the convicts to have to fetch it all from such a distance. One day Clement saw a lamb scraping at the soil with one of its forefeet. He took it as a sign that water was there; dug, and found a spring.

As Clement succeeded in converting many pagans, he was sent to Aufidianus, the prefect, who ordered him to be drowned in the sea with an old anchor attached to his neck. His body was recovered by his disciple Phoebus. The relics of S. Clement were translated to Constantinople (860) by S. Cyril on his return from his mission to the Chazars, whilst engaged in the Chersonese on his Slavonic translation of the Gospels. Some of the relics found their way to Rome, and were deposited in the church of San Clemente, where they are still reverently preserved. These consist of bones, some reddened earth, a broken vase containing some red matter, a little bottle similarly filled, and an inscription stating that these are the relics of the Holy Forty Martyrs of Scilita, and also of Flavius Clement.

In art S. Clement of Rome is represented as a Pope with an anchor at his side. [His death is placed at about 100 A.D.]

Clement's papal letter to the Corinthians was written about 80 A.D. in an effort to restore peace to the Church at Corinth, Greece which had broken into factions and was intent upon firing some of their presbyters. The epistle is written in Greek and frequently cites the Old Testament. The tone of Papal authority and the theme of Apostolic succession are evident in the letter.

Sources: catholicfaithandreason.org and catholic.org