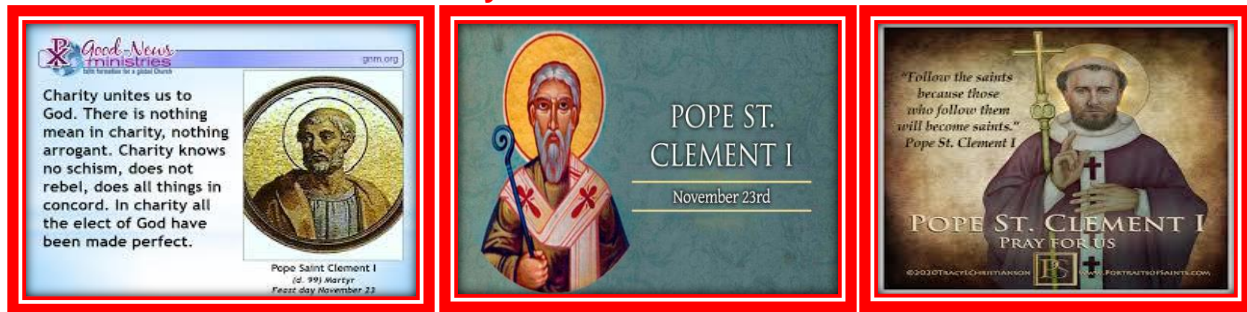


Daily Saints - 23 November



Feast of Pope Saint Clement I, Martyr

Diocese: Rome, **See:** Holy See, **Papal began:** 88AD, **Papacy ended:** 99 AD, **Consecration:** by Saint Peter, **Predecessor:** Anacetus, **Successor:** Evaristus, **Born:** 35 AD, Rome, Italy, **Died:** 99 AD, National Preserve of Tauric Chersonesos, Sevastopol, **Place of burial:** St. Clement Basilica, Rome, Italy, Kyiv Pechersk Lavra, Kyiv, Ukraine, **Venerated in** Catholic Church, Anglican Communion, Luthern Church, Eastern Orthodoxy, Oriental Orthodoxy, **Attributes:** Papal Vestments, Mariner's Cross, Anchor tied to the side, Palm of Martyrdom

He is the patron saint of boatmen, mariners, sailors, watermen, marble workers, sick children, stonecutters.

The details of Clement's life, before his conversion and even afterward, are largely unknown. Tradition suggests that Clement was the son of a Roman named Faustinus and that he joined the Church in Rome during its early years through the preaching of Saint Peter or Saint Paul. He went on to share in the missionary journeys of the apostles, and may even have assisted the first Pope in running the Church on a local level. He is known to have been a leading member of the church in Rome in the late 1st century.

After the deaths of St. Peter's first two successors, the canonized Popes Linus and Cletus, Clement took up St. Peter's position of primacy in the Church. Clement was said to have been consecrated by Saint Peter and ruled the Church from c. 92 to 102. It is thought that the Clement whom Saint Paul praises as a faithful fellow-worker, whose name is written in the Book of Life [Philippians 4:3], was Clement.

One of his most important tasks, during nearly 10 years as Pope, was to resolve serious problems in the Church of Corinth, which St. Paul had also struggled to discipline. Pope St. Clement wrote a letter to the Corinthians, which is one of the most ancient and precious documents surviving from early Christian times. It shows his profoundly religious spirit, wholly imbued with the mystery of the things of God and love of Christian unity. It offers an important look at the role of authority and charity in the early Church. Its introduction suggests that Pope Clement composed it while his local Church faced persecution from the Roman Emperor Domitian.

According to apocryphal Acta dating to the 4th century at the earliest, Clement was banished from Rome to the Chersonesus during the reign of Emperor Trajan and was set to work in a stone quarry. Finding on his arrival that the prisoners were suffering from lack of water, he knelt in prayer. Looking up, he saw a lamb on a hill, went to where the lamb had stood, and struck the ground with his pickaxe, releasing a gushing stream of clear water. This miracle resulted in the conversion of large numbers of the local pagans and his fellow prisoners to Christianity. As punishment, Saint Clement was martyred by being tied to an anchor and thrown from a boat into the Black Sea.

Quotes of St. Clement I

- "Follow the saints, because those who follow them will become saints."
- "Love admits no schisms: love gives rise to no seditions: love does all things in harmony."
- "Charity unites us to God. There is nothing mean in charity, nothing arrogant. Charity knows no schism, does not rebel, does all things in concord. In charity, all the elect of God has been made perfect."
- "A companion is but another self; wherefore it is an argument that a man is wicked if he keeps company with the wicked."
- "We should let God be the One to praise us and not praise ourselves. For God detests those who commend themselves. Let others applaud our good deeds."
- "This world and the world to come are two enemies. We cannot, therefore, be friends to both; but we must decide which we will forsake and which we will enjoy."
- "Filthy talk makes us feel comfortable with filthy action. But the one who knows how to control the tongue is prepared to resist the attacks of lust."
- "God hates those who praise themselves."
- "Let us teach the young in the school of the fear of the Lord."
- "Let us give up vain and fruitless cares, and approach to the glorious and venerable rule of our holy calling."
- "Let us attend to what is good, pleasing, and acceptable in the sight of him who formed us."
- "He who is chaste in flesh should not be proud, for he should know that he owes the gift of continence to another."
- "How blessed and amazing are God's gifts, dear friends Life with immortality, splendor with righteousness, truth with confidence, faith with assurance, self-control with holiness. And all these things are within our comprehension."
- "And we, too, being called by His will to Christ Jesus, are not justified by ourselves, nor by our wisdom, or understanding or godliness, or works which we have wrought in the holiness of heart; but by that faith through which, from the beginning, Almighty God has justified all men; to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen."
- "It was through jealousy and envy that the greatest and most upright pillars of the Church were persecuted and struggled unto death. Let us set before our eyes the good apostles. First of all, Peter, who because of unreasonable jealousy, suffered not merely once or twice but many times, and, having thus given his

witness, went to the place of glory that he deserved. It was through jealousy and conflict that Paul showed the way to the prize for perseverance. He was put in chains seven times, sent into exile, and stoned; a herald both in the east and the west, he achieved a noble fame by his faith. He taught justice to all the world and when he had reached the limits of the western world, he gave his witness before those in authority; then he left this world and was taken up into the holy place, a superb example of endurance. Around these men with their holy lives there gathered a great throng of the elect, who, though victims of jealousy, gave us the finest example of endurance amid many indignities and tortures. We are writing this, beloved, not only for your admonition but also as a reminder to ourselves; for we are placed in the same arena, and the same contest lies before us. Hence, we ought to put aside vain and useless concerns and should consider what is good, pleasing, and acceptable in the sight of him who made us. 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." - from a letter to the Corinthians by Pope Saint Clement I