

# Pope Saint Clement of Rome



Date of birth: ~35 A.D.  
Birthplace: Rome, Italy  
Date of death: 99 A.D., *martyred*  
Feast Day: November 23

**Patron Saint of: Angono, Rizal, Philippines;  
Mariners; Stonecutters**

## About Clement of Rome:

Clement was born in Rome, Italy, and raised in the Roman Empire. Likely a convert to the faith by the preachings of either St. Paul or St. Peter, Clement later was ordained a bishop by St. Peter himself. Around the time of his ordination, Clement is likely the man mentioned by St. Paul in Philippians 4:3, traveling and preaching the gospel with St. Paul. Clement would find himself appointed Pope in the year 88, being the fourth Pope of the Church and the third successor of Peter.

Clement's most well known work, the earliest Christian work we have outside of the New Testament, is a letter called the First Epistle of Clement to the Corinthians. He wrote to the Church in Corinth who had unwisely and unjustly deposed some of their priests and appointed new ones outside of apostolic succession. The new appointees showed evidence of pride, envy, and strife, and Pope Clement admonished the church's allowance of sedition. He wrote to them about the beautiful legacy of their Church, and reminded them of the love of Christ and the fruit of good works. The letter is a great early example of the authority the Pope had, and still holds today, to correct a region and point them back to Christ. It is also one of the earliest examples of apostolic succession: admonishing a church for deposing priests appointed by the Apostles and their successors, in favor of those they elected themselves.

Around the year 99, Clement was banished from the Roman Empire to Chersonesus by Emperor Trajan. He was sent to a work camp in a stone quarry. Clement noticed that all the prisoners were dehydrated, and knelt to pray. He looked up on a hill and saw a white lamb; following the lamb to the top of the hill, he swung his pickaxe at the ground and a stream of clean water began to flow. Many of the local pagans and his fellow prisoners were converted to Christianity because of this miracle. As punishment, he was tied to an anchor and thrown into the Black Sea.

## A word from Clement:

*"Love admits no schisms: love gives rise to no seditions: love does all things in harmony."*

## Find out more:

**Books:** *The First Epistle of Clement to the Corinthians*

**Formed.org:** St. Clement of Rome | Catholic Saints