

**THE POPES OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND
THE ROMAN EMPERORS from 14AD – 337AD**

m = murdered; † = martyred

ROMAN EMPEROR	Date of reign AD	BISHOP OF ROME	Date of reign AD
Tiberius - m.	14 – 37	(Jesus' earthly ministry is from 28AD-30AD)	St. Peter the Apostle, Vicar of Christ 30 – 67AD
Caligula - m.	37 – 41		
Claudius - m.	41 – 54	St. Peter the Apostle†	42 – June 29 th 67 (in Rome)
Nero - m	54 – 68		
Galba - m	68 – 69	St. Linus†	67 – 78
Otho - m	69		
Vitellius - m	69		
Vespasian	69 – 79	St. Cletus†	78 – 90
Titus	79 – 81		
Domitian - m	81 – 96	St. Clement I†	90 – 100
Nerva	96 – 98	St. Anacletus†	100 – 112
Trajan	98 – 117	St. Evaristus†	112 – 121
Hadrian	117 – 138	St. Alexander I†	121 – 132
Antoninus Pius	138 – 160	St. Sixtus I (Xystus) †	132 – 142
		St. Telesphorus†	142 – 154
		St. Hyginus†	154 – 158
Marcus Aurelius	160 – 180	St. Pius I†	158 – 167
		St. Anicetus† (this is a period of intense persecution)	? – 175
Commodus - m	180 – 192		
Pertinax - m	193	St. Soter†	? – 182
Julianus - m	193	St. Victor†	193 – 203
Septimius Severus	193 – 211	St. Zephyrinus†	203 – 221
Caracalla - m	211 – 217		
Macrinus - m	217 – 218		
Elagabalus - m	218 – 222	St. Callixtus †	221 – 227
Alexander Severus	222 – 230		
		St. Urban I†	227 – 233
Maximinus Thrax – m	235 – 238	St. Pontianus†	233-238
Gordiani – m	238		
Pulienus – m	238	St. Anterus†	238 - 239
Gordian III – m	238 – 244	St. Fabian †	239 - 253
Philip the Arabian - m	244 – 251		
Decius – m	249 – 251		

& sons – m	251 - 253	St. Cornelius†	253 – 255		
Valerian – m	253 - 260	St. Lucius†	255 – 257		
		St. Stephen†	257 – 260		
		St. Sixtus II (Xystus) †	260 – 261		
Gallienus – m	260 - 268	St. Dionysius	261 – 272		
Claudius Gothicus	268 – 270				
Aurelian – m	270 – 275	St. Felix I†	272 – 275		
Tacitus – m?	275 – 276	St. Eutychianus†	275 – 283		
Florianus – m	276				
Probus – m	276 – 282				
Carus – m	282 – 283				
WESTERN EMPEROR	DATE of reign AD	EASTERN EMPEROR	DATE of reign AD	BISHOP OF ROME	DATE of reign AD
Carinus – m	283 – 285	Numerian – m	283 – 284	St. Caius (Gaius) †	283 – 296
Diocletian	284 – 286	Diocletian (co- rules east with Maximian in the west)	284 - 305		
Maximian	286 – 305			St. Marcellinus†	296 – 304
Constantius	305 – 306	Galerius	305 – 311	St. Marcellus†	304 – 309
Constantine	307 – 337	Lincinius – m	308 – 324	St. Eusebius	309 – 310
Constantine eliminates his rival in the east and rules solo as first Christian Roman Emperor	324 – 337 (rules a united Roman Empire)			St. Melchiades (Miltiades)	311 – 314
				St. Sylvester I	314 – 337

313AD – Edict of Milan recognizes Christianity as a legitimate religion protected by the Roman Empire and ends organized persecution of Christians by the Roman State.
Roman Emperor Constantine is baptized on his death bed in 337AD.

The list of Popes and dates is taken from the *Annuario Pontificio*, the official publication of the Holy See. The earliest part of this official list is taken from the 5th century catalogue of Popes on a wall at the ancient Basilica of St. Paul's Outside the Walls in Rome, placed there on the order of Pope St. Leo the Great (440 – 461AD). Pope Leo's list continues through his pontificate but I have limited the list to the reign of Constantine and Pope St. Sylvester I. Another earlier list is found in Bishop Eusebius' *History of the Church* written in the early 4th century in which Eusebius records a list of the first 12 Popes / Bishops of Rome from a list composed by St. Irenaeus in the 2nd century AD. St. Irenaeus' list agrees with Pope Leo's list with the exception of Pope Anacleus [100-112AD] whose name is missing from Irenaeus' 2nd century list. For St. Irenaeus' 2nd century list see *Church History*, Bishop Eusebius, Book V, chapter VI, 1-5 [*Nicene and Post Nicene Fathers*, volume 1, page 221, Hendricks Publishing Company]. For the chronological list of the Popes from the *Annuario Pontificio* see *Church History*, Father John Laux, Tan Book Publishers, Inc., Appendix I**. The chronological list of Roman Emperors is for the most part adapted from *Augustus to Constantine*, Robert M. Grant, Westminster Press, 1970.

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