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Roman Catholic Priests and deacons in all parts of the world pray the same "breviary" every day. It is a set of psalms, prayers, and readings that lead us through the day.

One reading made a strong impression on me this week and I wanted to share it with you.

This is from Saint Clement I, who was pope in the 1st century after Christ from the years 88-99. Nearly two thousand years later, the radical call to love like Christ still impels us to deep conversion of heart!

Second Reading

From a letter to the Corinthians by Saint Clement I, pope

Who can express the binding power of divine love?...

Love unites us to God; it cancels innumerable sins, has no limits to its endurance, bears everything patiently. Love is neither servile nor arrogant. It does not provoke schisms or form cliques, but always acts in harmony with others. By it all God's chosen ones have been sanctified; without it, it is impossible to please him. Out of love the Lord took us to himself; because he loved us and it was God's will, our Lord Jesus Christ gave his life's blood for us – he gave his body for our body, his soul for our soul.

..... To him therefore we must turn, begging of his mercy that there may be found in us a love free from human partiality and beyond reproach. Every generation from Adam's time to ours has passed away; but those who by God's grace were made perfect in love have a dwelling now among the saints, and when at last the kingdom of Christ appears, they will be revealed. Take shelter in your rooms for a little while, says Scripture, until my wrath subsides. Then I will remember the good days, and will raise you from your graves.

Happy are we, beloved, if love enables us to live in harmony and in the observance of God's commandments, for then it will also gain for us the remission of our sins. Scripture pronounces happy those whose transgressions are pardoned, whose sins are forgiven. Happy the man, it says, to whom the Lord imputes no fault, on whose lips there is no guile. This is the blessing given those whom God has chosen through Jesus Christ our Lord. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

God bless,
Fr. Jonathan