



AMBROSE

Ambrose

d. 397

7 December

Bishop

- ✠ Catechumen, governor of Æmilia and Liguria
- ✠ Chosen bishop of Milan as alternative to Arian and Athanasian candidates
- ✠ Baptized, confirmed, ordained deacon, priest, and bishop in eight days
- ✠ Outstanding rhetorician and teacher
- ✠ Active anti-Arian, resisting demands for churches
- ✠ Withstood emperors, requiring that Theodosius to make public penance for massacre
- ✠ Encouraged Augustine to be baptized

You are not to ask what each man's deserts are. Mercy is not ordinarily held to consist in pronouncing judgment on another man's deserts, but in relieving his necessities; in giving aid to the poor, not in inquiring how good they are.

Very many deny that the Sacred writers wrote according to the rules of art. Nor do we contend for the contrary; for they wrote not according to art, but according to grace, which is above all art; for they wrote that which the Spirit gave them to speak. And yet they who wrote on art made use of their writings to frame their art from, and to compose its comments and rules.