

20 November

**Edmund,
King of the East Angles,
Martyr 870**

Eternal God, whose servant Edmund kept faith to the end, both with you and with his people, and glorified you by his death: grant us such steadfastness of faith that, with the noble army of martyrs, we may come to enjoy the fullness of the resurrection life: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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20 November

**Edmund,
King of the East Angles, Martyr**

Born in about the year 840, Edmund was nominated as King while still a boy. He became King of Norfolk in 855 and of Suffolk the following year. As King, he won the hearts of his subjects by his care of the poor and his steady suppression of wrong-doing. When attacked by the Danes, he refused to give over his kingdom or to renounce his faith in Christ. He was tied to a tree, shot with arrows and finally beheaded on this day in the year 870. His shrine at the town which became known as Bury St Edmunds was an important centre of pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages.

Sourced from 'Exciting Holiness'

23 November

**Clement
Bishop of Rome
Martyr c.100**

Creator and Father of eternity, whose martyr Clement bore witness with his blood to the love he proclaimed and the gospel that he preached: give us thankful hearts as we celebrate your faithfulness, revealed to us in the lives of your saints, and strengthen us in our pilgrimage as we follow your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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23 November

Clement, Bishop of Rome, Martyr

Clement was active as an elder in the Church in Rome towards the end of the first century and was reputed to have been a disciple of the apostles. He wrote an epistle to the Corinthians which witnessed to ministry in the Church and concerned the authority and duties of the ministers. That letter clearly showed the authority of one senior presbyter intervening in conflict in another Church and is full of valuable information about the history of the developing Church and its ministry at this time. His hierarchical view of Church order set a future pattern for episcopal practice and ministry. Clement seems to have been president of a council of presbyters which governed the Church in Rome and his letters are clearly written on their behalf. A fourth-century document has Clement being exiled to the Crimea where he was put to death by being thrown into the sea with an anchor around his neck.

Sourced from 'Exciting Holiness'