

Roman religion, gods and priests

Lares, Penates, Manes, Lemures, Genii

- ▶ Lares – guardian deities, their origin is uncertain
- ▶ Penates – house deities to whom Romans sacrificed every day
- ▶ Manes – chthonic deities often relating to death
- ▶ Lemures – spirits of restless dead
- ▶ Genii – general deities, as angels (Christianity)



Gods – Iuppiter, Mars and Quirinus

- ▶ Origin divine trinity
- ▶ Functional gods
- ▶ Flamines and ordo sacerdotum



Gods – Iuppiter, Iuno and Minerva

- ▶ Capitolian divine trinity
- ▶ Tarquinian dynasty
- ▶ Greek influence



Gods – Ceres, Liber and Libera

- ▶ 496 BC – a new temple at the foot of Aventine
- ▶ Fertility gods
- ▶ Plebeian religion



Gods – the others

- ▶ Ianus
- ▶ Veseta
- ▶ Dioskures
- ▶ Apollon
- ▶ Merkur



Oriental gods

- ▶ Kybele
- ▶ Isis
- ▶ Mithra
- ▶ Jesus Christ



Priesthoods

- ▶ Ordo sacerdotum
- ▶ Rex sacrorum
- ▶ Flamines
- ▶ Pontifices
- ▶ Virgines Vestalis
- ▶ Augures



Etruscan influence

- ▶ Lack of sources
- ▶ Eastern origin?
- ▶ Greek influence
- ▶ Vegeonia and Tages
- ▶ Libri fulgurales, libri rituales, libri haruspicini



Laws relating to the religion

- ▶ Lex Ogulnia de auguribus et pontificibus
- ▶ Senatus consultum de Bacchanalibus



Mythology

- ▶ Historization of myths
- ▶ Greek influence
- ▶ Vergilius and Aenneis

