

intrigue as priests would jostle for power. But as the priest had no life but the church, it was obvious he may as well give his whole life to the church.

--The introduction of ceremonies and public festivals that tended to rally masses to the church.

--The conversion of the Arian Lombards to accept the Nicene Creed and to be restored to orthodox Christianity, a giant move in prestige and mission.

Much that we do not like in Rome is the product of Gregory's farsighted vision and leadership. His competency is amazing and it is contradicted by the superstitions that were so much a part of his personal life. He had an openly gullible nature but coupled it with strengths of insight and understanding. As with many of us, he is a contradiction in terms but his genius far outweighs those personality faults that allowed him to lean to the incredible in irrational means.

Zachary 741-752

The undergirding of the Frankish kingdom is his chief contribution in this line even though he did not live to see it completed. He accepted the temporal authority and then used his vicarship to show the temporal leaders that only God could put them in office. With Stephen III (752-757) he expanded and fortified the Vatican states and made the Vatican the dominant kingdom in central Italy.

Adrian I (772-795)

Another able leader, his open support for Charlemagne led to the receiving of more lands and cities for papal oversight and benefit.

Leo IV (847-855) and Leo IX (1049-1054)

These men greatly strengthened the physical properties and extended Roman influence beyond limitations suggested by Constantinople. Some of these we have mentioned earlier...The Leonine wall, the anointing of Alfred, etc.