The Roman Emperors of this period

You certainly don't need to know all of these persons but a few notes on them are in good order. The Emperors who most touch us in this part of the course are as follow:

Augustus Caesar: 30 BC - 14 AD

the taxing spoken of in the Gospels

Tiberius Caesar: 14-37 AD

friend of the Herods, Pilate's appointment from him

Caligula: 37-41

capable but undisciplined madman: some persecution of

the church

Claudius: 41-54

drove the Jews out of Rome

Nero: 54-68

blamed Christians for the great fire in Rome..bitterly

persecuted church in Italy

Galba, Otho, Vitellius 68-69 AD..a storm interregnum period

Vespasian: 69-79

mastery of Palestine, destruction of the Temple, etc.

Titus: 79-81

Domitian: 81-96

persecuted Christians, banished John (most probably)

Nerva: 96-98

Trajan: 98-117

some persecution, the Trajan/Pliny letters

Hadrian: 117-138

famous for legal system, harsh on the church

Antoninus: 138-161

continued persecution

Marcus Aurelius...

Well that is enough for now.