

# Christian Takeover

THE ROMANS

31 May 2019

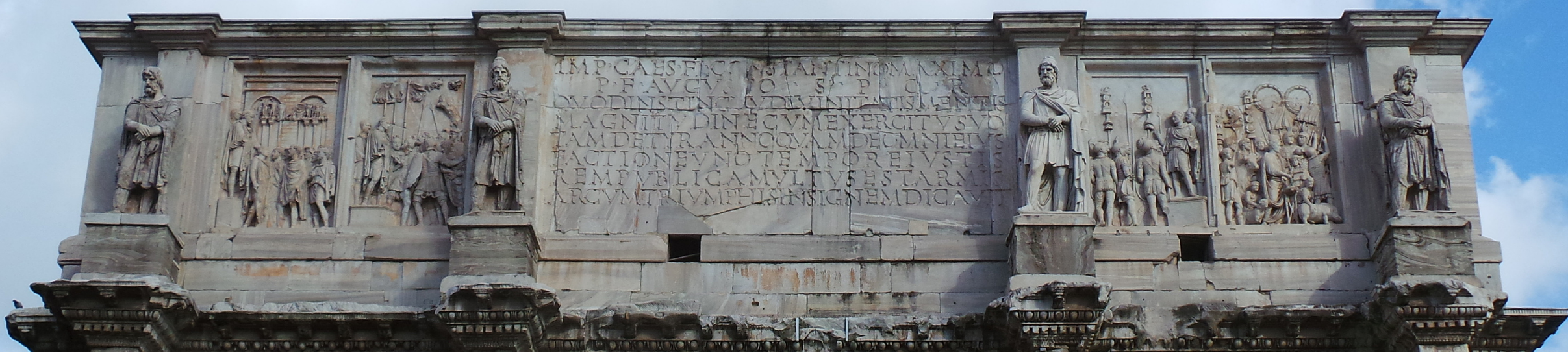
# Today

- Christian Takeover
  - Presentation
  - Discussion

# Christianity before and after 311/313

- Before: Persecutions at the fringes of society
  - After 64 CE: Nero—Great Fire of Rome
  - 250–260 CE: Decius & Valerius
  - 303–313 CE: Diocletian & Galerius
- 311: Galerius' Edict of Toleration
- **313: Constantine's & Licinius' "Edict of Milan"**
- 337: Constantine dies
- After: Christian intellectuals & theology
  - Jerome, Augustine of Hippo, Ambrose, Basil of Caesarea, ...

# Constantine I (the Great)



IMP(eratori) · CAES(ari) · FL(avio) · CONSTANTINO · MAXIMO ·  
P(io) · F(elici) · AVGUSTO · S(enatus) · P(opulus) · Q(ue) · R(omanus) ·  
QVOD · **INSTINCTV · DIVINITATIS** · MENTIS ·  
MAGNITVDINE · CVM · EXERCITV · SVO ·  
TAM · DE · TYRANNO · QVAM · DE · OMNI · EIVS ·  
FACTIONE · VNO · TEMPORE · IVSTIS ·  
REMPVBLICAM · VLTVS · EST · ARMIS ·  
ARCVM · TRIVMPHIS · INSIGNEM · DICAUIT

To the Emperor Caesar Flavius Constantinus, the greatest, pious, and blessed Augustus: because he, **inspired by the divine**, and by the greatness of his mind, has delivered the state from the tyrant and all of his followers at the same time, with his army and just force of arms, the Senate and People of Rome have dedicated this arch, decorated with triumphs.

# Constantine I (the Great)



Constantine's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary SALUS REIPUBLICAE medallion  
(315 CE, silver, Münchner Münzsammlung)

# Church after Constantine

- Schisms and Heresies
  - Donatism
  - Arianism
- Creation and unification of the Church
  - Council of Nicaea (325) —Anti-Arianism
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Council of Constantinople (381)—Anti-Arianism / Nicene reaffirmation
  - Council of Ephesus (431) —Mary as Theotokos
  - Council of Chalcedon (451) —Hypostatic Union of Christ