EARLY CHRISTIAN and BYZANTINE ART

Trajan 98-117
Antoninus Pius 138-161
Constantine 307-337

Hadrian 117-138
Marcus Aurelius 161-180
Justinian 527-565

Catacombs: Christian burial places, underground; hollowed out of the soft stone called tufa into rooms, with many small niches for burial.  Locus: catacomb burial niche  Cubiculum: catacomb room or gallery.

CONSTANTINE
• Colossal seated sculpture (remaining head, appendages)
• Arch of Constantine – used sculptural components from monuments of Trajan, Hadrian and Marcus Aurelius

SCULPTURE
• Good Shepherd – free standing
• Christ enthroned, mid-4th century
• Mithraic representations: Birth of Mithras, Life of Mithras from his altar, ascension of Mithras/Elijah’s ascent

Sarcophagi: Mixed Styles
• Sarcophagus with Angels (a la Nikes), 3rd century
• Jonah Sarcophagus, early 4th century
• Toils of Hercules sarcophagus, 4th century
• Two Brothers sarcophagus, O.T. & N.T., 4th century
• Madonna and the Magi Sarcophagus, early 5th century

IVORY DIPTYCHS: Classical to non-classical
• Nicomachi a& Symmachi – Bacchus priestess, Ceres priestess, late 4th century
• Emperor Anastasius ca. 517

PAINTING - Catacombs
• Catacombs of Saints Peter and Marcellinus, late 3rd century – 4th century
• Jonah, Noah, Baptism of Christ, Raising of Lazarus, Adam & Eve
• Mausoleum of the Julii, late 3rd century - Christ as Sol Invictus, mosaic.

Iconoclasm
• Christ, St. Catherine’s monastery, Mt. Sinai, Egypt, ca. 6th century
• Virgin with Sts. Theodore and George, 6th century

ARCHITECTURE

Rome
• Old St. Peter’s ca. 330
  Basilica – a rectilinear building used by Roman government as a bureaucratic facility.
  Clerestory – raised roof above central aisle of a structure, usually with many windows, to allow light and air into a building.
  • Santa Costanza, ca. 350
Constantinople
• Hagia Sophia, 532-537
  Architects: Anthemius of Tralles & Isidorus of Miletus
  Squinch – small arch built between across the interior angle of two walls, usually as a support.
  Pendenteve – inverted curved triangle that serves to unite the square base and round dome

Ravenna
• Mausoleum of Galla Placidia, ca 425
• San Vitale, ca 549

Venice
• San Marco, begun ca 1069
Domes on pendentives (left) and squinches (right).

11.7 Restored view (a), plan (b), and section (c) of Old Saint Peter’s, Rome, Italy, begun ca. 326. (The restoration of the forecourt is conjectural.)