

to improve himself in this one science.<sup>1</sup> The same apostle, in the transport of his ardent love of the cross, cried out, *God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.*<sup>2</sup> To glory in a thing is to love it, to esteem it, to place in it our greatness and happiness. "Every one glories in those things in which he places his greatness," as St. Thomas says.—The sacred passion of Christ is the source of all our happiness and good, and the perfect model and school of all virtue. If it be the tender object of our devotion, if we love, and desire always to meditate on our Redeemer crucified for us, the sacred instrument of his triumph, the ensign and trophy of his precious victory, and the principal emblem of his sufferings which it represents to us, and strongly paints before our eyes, must be always dear and most amiable to us.

### ST. ALEXANDER, POPE, M.

HE succeeded St. Evaristus in 109, and held the holy see ten years, but not complete. He died in 119, and is ranked among the martyrs in the canon of the mass. Notwithstanding the silence of St. Irenæus, we also find him styled a martyr in the Sacramentary of St. Gregory the Great, in the ancient Calendar of Fronto, and unanimously in other martyrologies which join with him two companions, Eventius and Theodulus, who suffered with him, or at least about the same time of his happy death.

The bodies of SS. Alexander, Eventius, and Theodulus, were interred on the Nomentan road, but were translated into the church of St. Sabina, which now belongs to a great convent of Dominican friars. St. Juvenal, the first bishop of Narni, in Umbria, who died in peace about the year 367, is commemorated in the Roman Breviary on the same day. He is styled a martyr by St. Gregory the Great. (Hom. 57. in Evang. and Dial. 1. 4. c. 12.)

<sup>1</sup> Etsi hoc solum sciebat, nihil est quod nesciebat. Magnum est scire Jesum crucifixum. S. Aug. serm. 161. n. 3.

<sup>2</sup> Gal. vi. 14.