

**K13 Ovid celebrates the dedication of the altar**

Unaided to Peace's Altar has my song guided my footsteps;  
From the month's ending this will be the day penultimate. 710  
Come Peace, your comely tresses decked with laurel leaves  
Of Actium, come and over all the globe sustain your gentle sway.  
As long as Rome lacks enemies and her generals a source of triumphs,  
So long will you to generals afford a glory greater than any war.  
Let Roman soldiery bear arms only to curb the arms of enemies; 715  
And for no cause save only ceremony let savage war-horns sound.  
Let the wide world's shores from first to last be fearful of the sons  
Of great Aeneas. Where they fear too little, let them feel love.  
Come priests, add incense to the flames of peace; come, pour wine  
Upon the victim's pure white head and let it fall. Pray to the gods, 720  
Who hearken always to our pious prayers, that Caesar's house,  
The guarantor of peace, in peace may live for ever.

[Ovid, *Fasti* 1.709–722]

This passage of Ovid's *Fasti*, celebrates the dedication of the altar on 30 January 9 BC (see **C12**, **C40** for the date on the official calendars) and makes the encomiastic link between dynastic continuity and world peace.