

The Gods and Goddesses of Mount Olympus

The Romans had to keep the twelve most powerful gods on Mount Olympus happy – otherwise the gods wouldn't keep them safe. They built temples in the gods' honour and chose priests and priestesses to organise their festivals and sacrifices. You ignored the Olympic gods at your peril, for they were quick to anger and slow to forgive!



The Roman people loved their gods, goddesses and spirits. They saw them in flowers, in streams, on door latches even under their beds. There were special gods to protect you in the countryside and public shrines to honour them, and each home had a shrine in honour of the household gods. Vesta, the goddess of fire, was worshipped in every home.

Vesta, goddess of hearth and home