



St. Bernardino's handwritten original of the "Itinerarium anni" is in the Vatican Library

Vat. lat.  
15495  
f. 15r



## St. Bernardino's handwritten original of the "Itinerarium anni" is in the Vatican Library

The Vatican Library has recently acquired an autograph manuscript of St. Bernardino (1380-1444). This is the *Itinerarium anni* (sive *Sylva praedicabilis*), 160 x 112 mm, with folios numbered from 8 to 281. The object had been privately owned for some time; all traces of its whereabouts had been lost since the mid-eighteenth century. It has now received the shelfmark *Vat.lat.15495*.

On the death of the saint, which took place in L'Aquila on May 20, 1444, his assets, including our manuscript, were transferred to the Franciscan convent which he founded in Siena.

This is one of the works of which Bernardino Albizzeschi is both the author and scribe. They include collections of sermons, three of which are already preserved in the Library, bearing the shelfmarks *Chig.C.VI.163*, *Ross.40*, and *Vat.lat.1045*.

The manuscript was donated to Giulio Franchini Taviani (1694-1759), a diplomat holding the office of *auditor generalis* in Siena, appointed by the Grand Duke of Tuscany, Francis I, on March 29, 1747, and a faithful devotee of the Siennese saint.



*Vat.lat.3745, 1r, detail*

After he obtained the manuscript, considered a relic, Taviani made two copies of it: the first, for personal use (now in Siena, BCI, *U.IV.8*); the second, for the community of Friars Minor of the Observance of Siena (Siena, BCI, *U.IV.7*).

After Taviani's death, the friars tried to retrieve the codex and found the reliquary that used to contain, but not the manuscript, whose traces were lost ever since 1759. It reappears during the nineteenth century as property of George John Warren (1803-1866), 5th baron of Vernon, bibliophile, passionate about Italian literature, whose *ex libris* is still present on the endpaper of the front cover.

Part of the Warren collection was put on sale at Sotheby's in 1918, 1921 and 1928; the *Itinerarium anni* is present in the Sotheby's sales catalog of 1918, albeit under an incorrect date (14th cent.) and without the indication that it was the saint's autograph version.

The manuscript continues to be frequently passed from owner to owner throughout the 20th century, and it is not easy to find in the sales catalogs, due to its improper listing and date; among the most recent owners is Cornelius J. Hauck (1893-1967). Hauck donated his own library to the Cincinnati Historical Society, which together with other institutions will constitute what is now the Cincinnati Museum Center.

In 2006 the Museum put the manuscript up for sale in New York, at Christie's, but the description did not make it possible to identify either the work or the author: "Itinerarium animi", a Franciscan Vademecum [...] 13th century".



*Vat.lat.15495, back cover*

The detailed examination of the sources and the paleographic and codicological study of the manuscript conducted by Sophie Delmas and Francesco Siri, from the Institut de Recherche et d'Histoire des Textes, have made it possible to establish that this is the lost autographical version of the *Itinerarium anni*, by Bernardino of Siena. «Cette redécouverte permet d'apprécier l'une des plus importantes figures de la prédication médiévale en Italie et sa méthode de travail».

The possibility to access the autograph version once again, whether in the reading room or through our digital library, will permit scholars to examine the same model that gave rise to the two copies sought by Taviani in the 18th cent. and that served as the basis of the edition to the *Itinerarium anni* in the eighth volume of the *Opera omnia* of Bernardino of Siena (Quaracchi, 1963).

Thanks to Scott and Lannette Turicchi, of Pasadena, who have made a donation to the Sanctuary of Culture foundation, it has been possible to acquire the precious manuscript. This fourth manuscript has been added to the other three Bernardino autographical versions kept in the reserves of the Manuscript Department, and completes a collection that is probably second in quantity only to the one stored in Siena. To our benefactors we extend the sincere gratitude of the Apostolic Library and that of the community of scholars.



Chig.C.VI.163.pt.A, painted on cloth



## H.E. Msgr. José Tolentino de Mendonça new Archivist and Librarian of H.R.C.



Last June 26, the Holy Father Pope Francis appointed the new Archivist and Librarian of the Holy Roman Church, Msgr. José Tolentino de Mendonça, while also raising him to the Episcopal seat of Suava, in Algeria, with dignity as Archbishop.

Born in Madeira, on December 15, 1965, His Excellency was rector of the Pontifical Portuguese College of Rome and vice rector of the Universidade Católica Portuguesa of Lisbon.

On September 1, the Apostolic Librarian began the new assignment and on the 3, in the large room dedicated to Leo XIII, wished to meet all the staff of the Library to address them with a moving greeting.

H.E. Msgr. de Mendonça thanked his predecessor, H.E. Msgr. Jean Louis Bruguès, O.P., for his commitment to the Library and to the Archive, and wished to greet all the employees and collaborators of the Library personally.

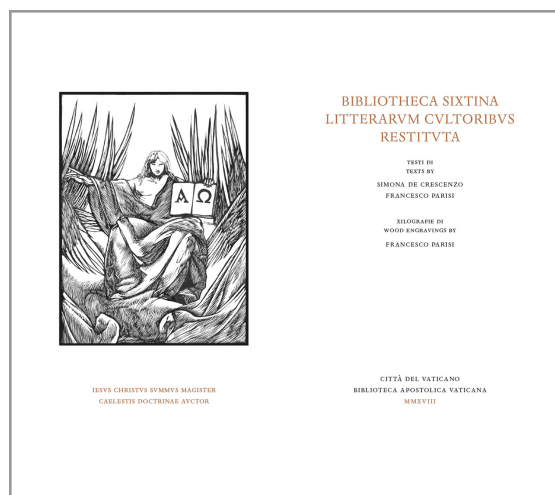
Our wishes to our Librarian, the first Portuguese prelate to lead the venerable Library of the Popes, in his new assignment.

### “In the beginning was the Word”

On the one year anniversary, the volume *Bibliotheca Sixtina litterarum cultoribus restituta* was published to commemorate the opening of the Sistine Hall to scholars. The book hosts twenty-six xylographs made by Francesco Parisi and features texts by the artist as well as by Simona De Crescenzo, head of the Prints Cabinet.

The text, composed in movable type, yielded a first edition of three hundred copies, numbered and printed by the Tipoteca Italiana Fondazione (Cornuda, Treviso).

The work, reviving the tradition of commissioning an illustrated book, was presented in the famous Hall on September 17; the small pieces of artwork, engraved on lemon wood, provide a new interpretation of the figures represented on the six pillars of the same Hall, which stand as symbols of the different cultures on which our knowledge rests. These symbols have thus found new life through the artwork.





At the end of the sixteenth century, twenty-four figures, from Moses to St. Cyril, flanked by Adam and Christ, were depicted in frescoes on each side of the six the pillars of the Hall. They thus represent peoples and cultures, and illustrate the alphabets and languages, the means through which dialogue and, therefore, collaboration can be fostered.

Through the languages developed by men, there is a close communion of *ratio et fides*, culture and doctrine, represented on the opposite long sides of the Hall by ecumenical councils and libraries. Hence, with the opening of the Hall, the promotion of dialogue continues to our day.

The Library organized visits by appointment to the exhibition until September 28, and then every Wednesday until October 31, for all those interested to see the achievement of this small and so significant graphic work.



### A small prayer book returned to light

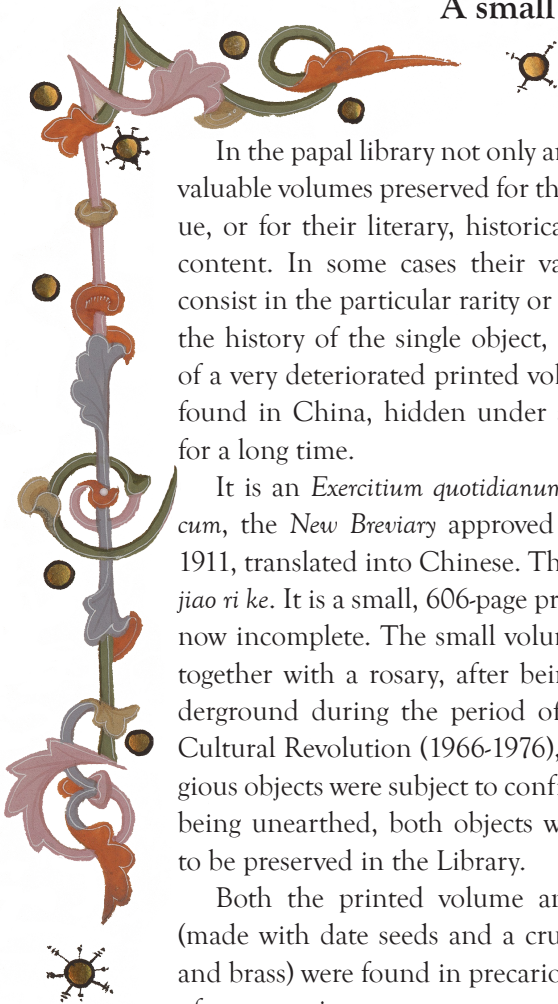
In the papal library not only are ancient and valuable volumes preserved for their artistic value, or for their literary, historical or scholarly content. In some cases their value does not consist in the particular rarity or beauty, but in the history of the single object, as in the case of a very deteriorated printed volume, recently found in China, hidden under a layer of soil for a long time.

It is an *Exercitium quotidianum variarum precum*, the *New Breviary* approved by Pius X in 1911, translated into Chinese. The title is *Sheng jiao ri ke*. It is a small, 606-page printed volume, now incomplete. The small volume was found together with a rosary, after being buried underground during the period of the Chinese Cultural Revolution (1966-1976), when all religious objects were subject to confiscation. After being unearthed, both objects were then sent to be preserved in the Library.

Both the printed volume and the rosary (made with date seeds and a crucifix in wood and brass) were found in precarious conditions of conservation.

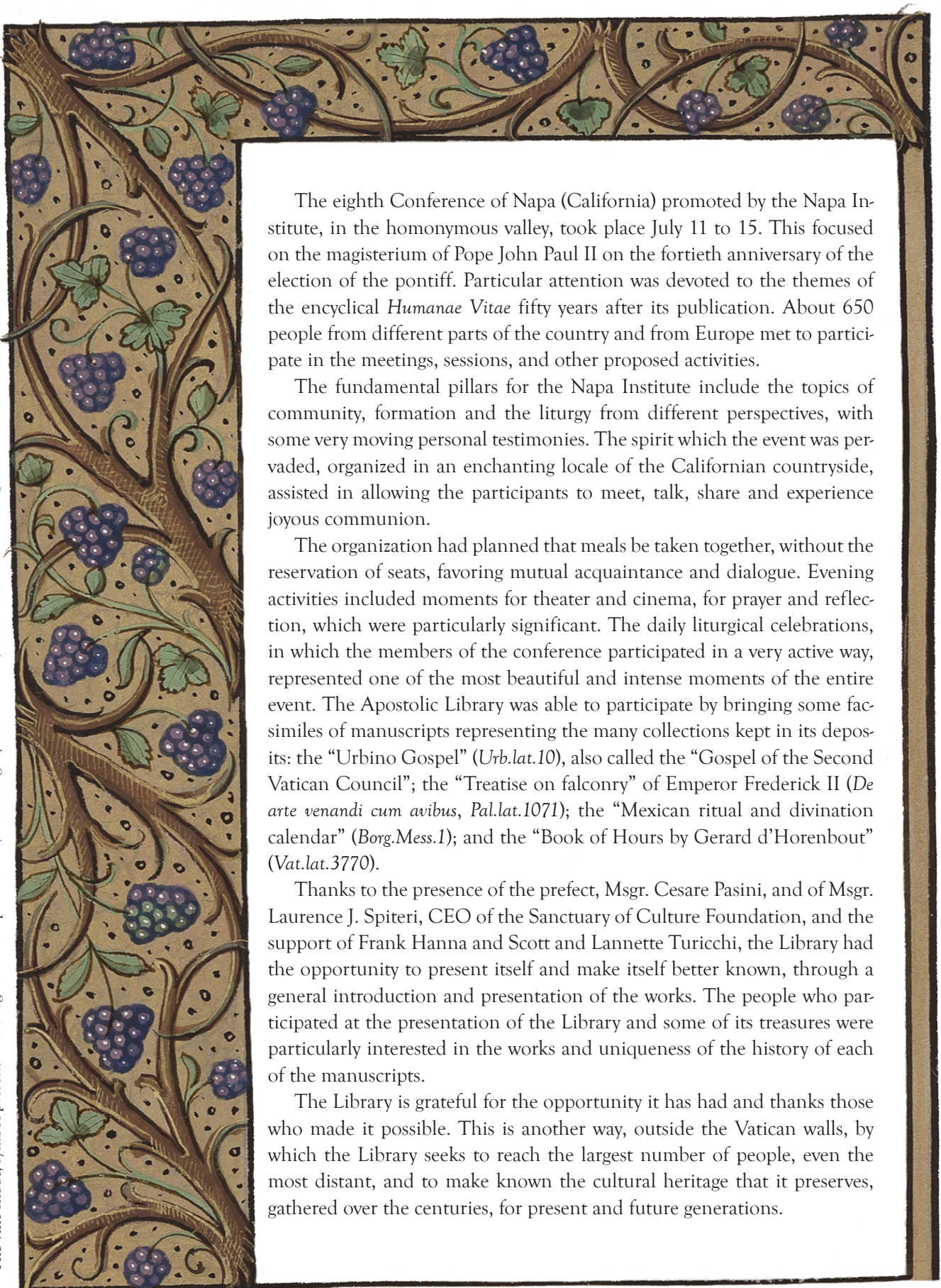
The rosary has been cleaned, and the metal parts of the chain have been mended. The printed volume has been disinfected and now the individual pages will be restored.

The preparation of a special box has been arranged that will allow the two objects to be kept together, respecting the will of those who concealed them so that they could remain together, in the hope that they would not be lost.



## The Library at the eighth Conference of Napa

The vine shoot, symbol present in the logo of the Napa Institute, is an allegory of the Savior, who said of Himself: "ego sum vitis vera"



The eighth Conference of Napa (California) promoted by the Napa Institute, in the homonymous valley, took place July 11 to 15. This focused on the magisterium of Pope John Paul II on the fortieth anniversary of the election of the pontiff. Particular attention was devoted to the themes of the encyclical *Humanae Vitae* fifty years after its publication. About 650 people from different parts of the country and from Europe met to participate in the meetings, sessions, and other proposed activities.

The fundamental pillars for the Napa Institute include the topics of community, formation and the liturgy from different perspectives, with some very moving personal testimonies. The spirit which the event was pervaded, organized in an enchanting locale of the Californian countryside, assisted in allowing the participants to meet, talk, share and experience joyous communion.

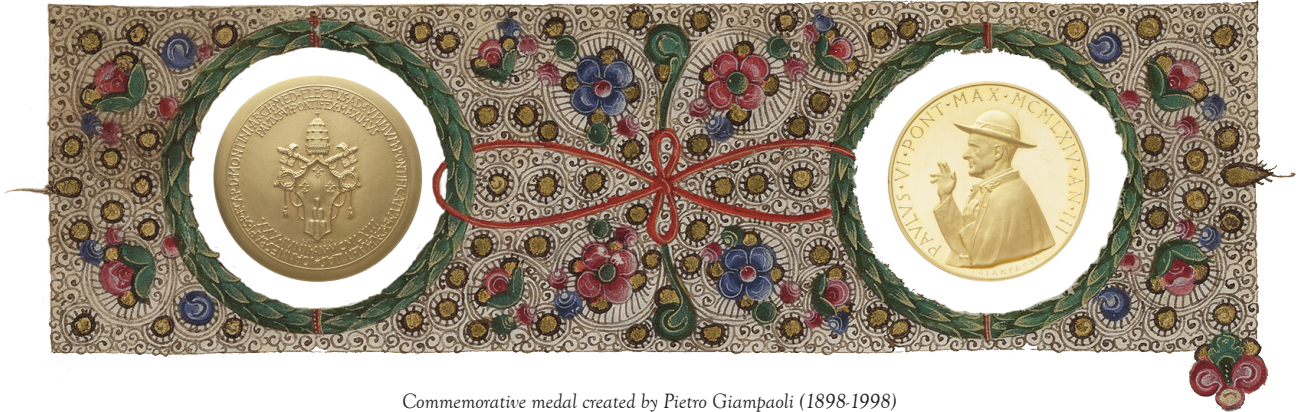
The organization had planned that meals be taken together, without the reservation of seats, favoring mutual acquaintance and dialogue. Evening activities included moments for theater and cinema, for prayer and reflection, which were particularly significant. The daily liturgical celebrations, in which the members of the conference participated in a very active way, represented one of the most beautiful and intense moments of the entire event. The Apostolic Library was able to participate by bringing some facsimiles of manuscripts representing the many collections kept in its deposits: the "Urbino Gospel" (*Urb.lat.10*), also called the "Gospel of the Second Vatican Council"; the "Treatise on falconry" of Emperor Frederick II (*De arte venandi cum avibus*, *Pal.lat.1071*); the "Mexican ritual and divination calendar" (*Borg.Mess.1*); and the "Book of Hours by Gerard d'Horenbout" (*Vat.lat.3770*).

Thanks to the presence of the prefect, Msgr. Cesare Pasini, and of Msgr. Laurence J. Spiteri, CEO of the Sanctuary of Culture Foundation, and the support of Frank Hanna and Scott and Lannette Turicchi, the Library had the opportunity to present itself and make itself better known, through a general introduction and presentation of the works. The people who participated at the presentation of the Library and some of its treasures were particularly interested in the works and uniqueness of the history of each of the manuscripts.

The Library is grateful for the opportunity it has had and thanks those who made it possible. This is another way, outside the Vatican walls, by which the Library seeks to reach the largest number of people, even the most distant, and to make known the cultural heritage that it preserves, gathered over the centuries, for present and future generations.



## Paul VI and the Apostolic Library



Commemorative medal created by Pietro Giampaoli (1898-1998)

Giovanni Battista Montini (1897-1978), Pope Paul VI (1963-1978), beatified on October 19, 2014, will be solemnly canonized on October 14, 2018.

The remembrance and gratitude of the Apostolic Library in his regard joins the many others from all over who have esteemed him, respected and loved him.

Giovanni Battista Montini made his first contact with the Vatican in October 1917, when, at just twenty years old, he visited the Sacred Museum of the Library and met Giovanni Mercati (1866-1957), who would soon become the prefect of the Library.

In October of 1920, Luigi Gramatica, prefect of the Biblioteca Ambrosiana, wrote to his former colleague Mercati asking him to host the young Montini, “a pearl of a youth” and newly ordained priest, who wanted to move to Rome to finish his university studies and graduate in history, since the winter in Brescia was not suitable for its delicate health. We have no news of the response of Mercati, but we know that the proposal did not become reality; however, their acquaintance was to be developed further, especially from December 1937 on, when Pius XI (1922-1939), Achille Ratti (1857-1939), the librarian pope, appointed Msgr. Montini as Substitute for the Secretary of State. Through this task, Montini came to know all the aspects of what he used to call the “venerable” Library, “a rich, austere and fruitful home of human and Christian wisdom”, and to follow its fate with great interest over a long period of time.

In fact, he shared the same path of the Institution with Card. Giovanni Mercati (1866-1957), who became Librarian in 1936, during the difficult years of the war, when there was an urgent need to help scholars who were persecuted and in difficulty, and to protect the archival and librarian resources of many institutions of the Roman district.

Montini and Mercati had a particularly fruitful working relationship, as evidenced by the correspondence preserved in the Library, which also reveals that they often met to examine different issues, not only related to the Library, for example in the case of the census of ecclesiastical archives.

At the death of Pope John XXIII on June 3, 1963, Msgr. Montini was elected, upon the fifth voting session, on June 21. Paul VI visited the Apostolic Library for the first time on March 24, 1964. Addressing the staff he said, “May you consider yourselves to be almost like monks, consecrated to serious study, to culture, and this qualifies the life dedicated to such a noble mission. In addition to admiring you, the Holy Father also wishes to express his particular encouragement: continue in the attentive and total commitment to your duty, also because the main purpose of such a demanding activity is not only to collect, catalog, and order such important and precious material according to a standard of high perfection, but also to disseminate it and make it accessible according to the motto that Nicholas V wished to have for his library: *‘Pro communi doctorum virorum commodo’*, that is, for the promotion of culture.”



The pontiff returned again to the Library on the occasion of the delivery of the *Bodmer Papyrus*, which Martin Bodmer himself had given him on June 10, 1969 and which contains the Greek text of the two letters of St. Peter. The ceremony for the consignment of the gift took place in the large Leonina Hall, on the following June 28.

On March 25, 1972, Pope Montini participated in the inauguration of the exhibition “The Book of the Bible”, organized for the occasion of the International Year of the Book, announced by UNESCO. And on June 20, 1975 he visited the exhibition set up in the Vestibule and in the Sistine Hall on the fifth centenary of the foundation of the Apostolic Library, formally constituted and open to scholars on June 15, 1475 by Pope Sixtus IV.

On the occasion of the pontiff’s 80th birthday (September 26, 1977), he was offered a collection of original documents from figures of the academic and religious spheres from the 18th to the 20th centuries, 608 in all, preserved in 630 portfolios. An exhibit of the documents took place in the wing of Carlo Magno, near St. Peter’s Basilica, inaugurated by Pope John Paul II on May 8, 1979.

The collection of the documents was entrusted to the Vatican Library, where it was transferred after the exhibition closed, so as to make them available to scholars.



As stated by Paolo Vian, director of the Manuscript Department, who edited the publication of the inventory, *The Autographs Paul VI: introduction, inventory and indices* (1999), “The interest of the collection goes well beyond the vast range of texts, edited and unedited, which are offered to researchers. As usually happens only to the collections that are the fruit and reflection of a personal will, this series of autographs is in fact, in many ways, the authentic mirror of the pontificate to which it is dedicated, and from which it takes its name, its ‘integral humanism’, that is, its openness to the world, its attention, respectful and sincere, to all the manifestations of thought, art, research, the intellect and the human spirit, with a breadth that reaches far beyond the visible borders of Catholic Church and may in some cases appear unexpected.”

Paul VI visits the Library, March 24, 1964  
(Prints Cabinet)





**“Vatican, de san Pedro to Francisco: las grandes colecciones vaticanas en México, dos mil años de arte y historia”**



To celebrate the reestablishment of the diplomatic relations of the Mexican State and the Holy See, which took place on September 21, 1992, the Mexican Government, in collaboration with the Vatican Museums, the Fabbrica di San Pietro, the Vatican Library and the Papal Sacristy, organized a exhibition in the Antiguo Colegio de San Ildefonso in Mexico City. The exhibition was inaugurated on June 18 in the presence of the President of Mexico, Enrique P. Nieto, the Archivist and Librarian of the H.R.C., H.E. Msgr. Jean Louis Bruguiès, as representative of the Holy See, who was welcomed by the apostolic nuncio, H.E. Msgr. Franco Coppola. The exhibition may be visited until October 28.

There are 160 works from the Vatican collections, from Raphael to Tiziano, Bernini, Paolo Caliari (the Veronese), Guido Reni and Marcello Venusti, along with other works from various Mexican institutions.

The Apostolic Library participates with twenty-two works from the various manuscript collections (*Pal. lat.1886*) -also in facsimile- printed books (*Ashby.Stampe. Cartella.Piranesi.14,3*), as well as work from numismatic collections (*Md.Pont.IuliusII.4*).

The Ambassador of Mexico to the Holy See, H.E. Mr. Jaime Manuel of the Arenal Fenochio saw to the preparation of the exhibition, and visited the venerable Institution to meet the authorities of the Library himself.

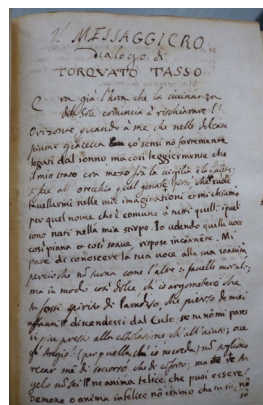
**The “postillati” of Tasso**

Among the printed volumes of the Barberini collection, there is a small group of 53 volumes, called the “Crenzino del Tasso” (*Stamp.Barb.Cred.Tasso*), consisting of books belonging to Torquato Tasso (1544-1595), *postillati*, annotated or glossed by him. They are particularly significant in the study of the poet to understand his education and his literary tastes. The collection arrived at the *Barberini Library* probably from the religious order, the Girolamini di S. Onofrio. Here Tasso had brought his personal belongings, including the printed volumes, and spent the last weeks of his life.

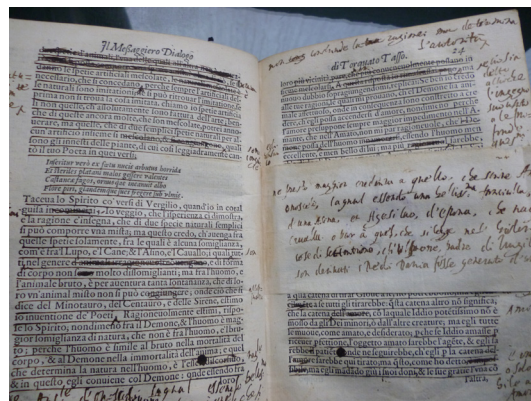
These volumes had remained for a long time distributed among the *Barberiniani*, mixed in with other printed volumes. About forty *postillati* were identified in the first half of the nineteenth century, and kept separate ever since; others were added later, purchased on several occasions after 1850. The small collection is indeed the most conspicuous known group of volumes annotated by Tasso.

The Library also preserves the autograph volume of Tasso, *Barb.lat.3995*, and the *Gerusalemme liberata* prepared for the press, *Barb.lat.3996*; other *postillati* are present in the Ferraioli collection.

The group of the *postillati* of Tasso has just been analytically cataloged by the Ancient Books Section of the Library and the bibliographic records can be consulted on the institutional OPAC.



Torquato Tasso  
Il messaggero  
In Venetia :  
appresso Bernardo Giunti,  
e fratelli, MDLXXXII.  
*Barb.Cred.Tasso.13a;c*



## Card. Jean Louis Tauran (1943-2018) Librarian of the H.R.C.

On July 5, Card. Jean Louis Tauran entered eternal life, remembered by many as the cardinal who announced the election of Pope Francis on March 13, 2013.

His Holiness Pope Francis presided over the entire liturgical celebration; the pontiff had expressed his sentiments to the sister of the late Cardinal: "I conserve a touching memory of this man of profound faith, who has courageously served the Church of Christ up to the very end in spite of illness".

Jean Louis Tauran was born in Bordeaux on April 5, 1943. He completed his secondary school at Michel Montaigne high school in his city, attended the Gregorian University and the Catholic Institute of Toulouse for ecclesiastical studies, obtaining a doctorate in Canon Law and specialist degrees in Theology and Philosophy. He was ordained a priest on September 20, 1969. He became a member of the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy and began his diplomatic service in 1975. He was Apostolic Nuncio to the Dominican Republic (1975-1978) and to Lebanon (1979-1983).

On December 1, 1990 he was

appointed Secretary of the Holy See for Relations with States, with dignity as Archbishop.


He was created cardinal on October 21, 2003, and was given the titular church, Sant'Apollinare alle Terme Neroniane-Alessandrine. At the same time, he was named Librarian and Archivist of the Holy Roman Church, which he held until June 25, 2007, when he left the Library and the Archive to take up the position of President of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue.

The Prefect of the Library, Msgr. Cesare Pasini, echoing the memories of those who knew him and appreciated him during his term as Librarian, remembered him for "his extraordinary competence and capacity for dialogue, at all levels, the ability to say and always notice the right thing at the right time, the clarity of thought, exquisite refinement, steadfast will, and at the same time, his welcoming smile, and acute, clever sense of humor. At the moment of his leave, not only the positive characteristics of a person emerge, but a sincere and poignant sense of gratitude is born".





## The “biggest” manuscript Urb.ebr.1 is digitized

 The manuscript *Urb.ebr.1* (982 ff., 580 x 420 mm), made in Germany in 1294, the so-called “Volterra Bible”, traditionally considered to be one of the manuscripts purchased by Federico da Montefeltro in June 1472, after the siege of Volterra (Tuscany), and containing the text of the Bible, has recently been digitized.

For a long time it was exhibited in a clear case along the gallery that leads from the Museums to the Sistine Chapel, together with a tiny manuscript, *Vat.lat.11254*, of only 37 x 27 mm, containing the *Missae s. Francisci et s. Annae*; the two were presented to the general public as the objects of the two extremes (in measurement) that the Library possesses.

In fact, the codex represents the largest object in terms of thickness (330 mm), and is actually the document with the greatest weight in the entire collection of manuscripts of the Vatican, weighing 45.7 kilograms.

The process leading up to its digitization has been particularly intricate and has involved the necessity of two people for the activity of the reproduction itself. The digitization is all the more important for the correct preservation of this object among others, since the original is so difficult to “manipulate”, even with four hands.



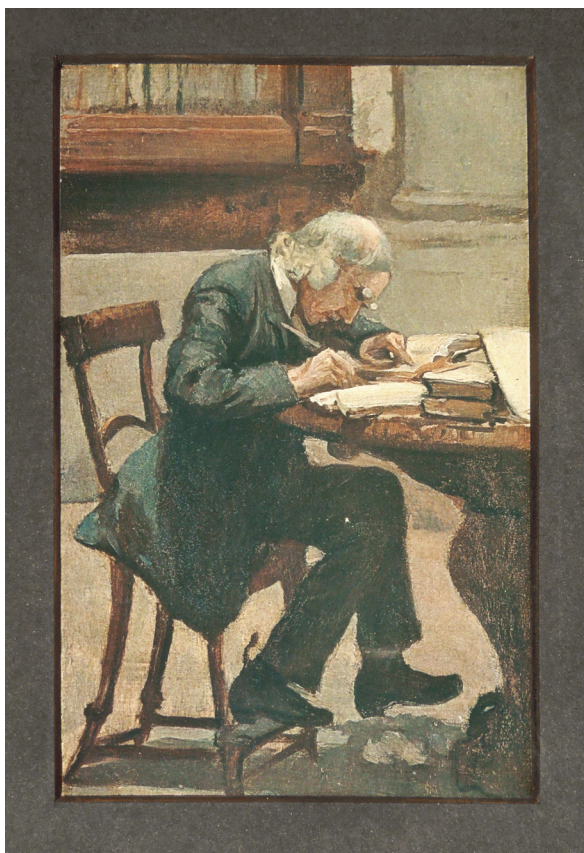
*Urb.ebr.1*, f. 1



*Codex Urb.ebr.1* in the stacks of the Library

## The “Letters of Theodor Mommsen to the Italians” published

In the series *Studi e Testi* of the Apostolic Library, two volumes have recently been published, nos. 519-520, which consist of the 883 letters written by the famous historian of Roman law and classicist Theodor Mommsen (1817-1903) addressed to 160 figures from the world of Italian culture with whom he had had contact during the research carried out in our country.



Alfons Hollaender (1845-1923), *Mommsen in Florence* (1888)  
(Berlin Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften,  
*Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum*)

He considered Italy, and especially Rome, his second homeland and was a member of the *Accademia dei Lincei* from 1876. The work that collects the missives recovered so far in various public and private institutions was edited by Marco Buonocore, *scriptor Latinus* and director of the Archives Section of the Apostolic Library. The work, called a *monumentum scientiae nostrae aetatis*, presents the epistolary in chronological order, with copious commentary. The main theme that appears in the documents is that of Latin epigraphy and the epigraphic method, which highlight the passion of Mommsen for this primary source.

The bio-bibliographic information about the recipients of the letters and the persons mentioned by the author is organized in two dictionaries. There are also two bibliographies, one relating to the letters and one of a general nature; two indexes also accompany the letters, one for names and the other for the epigraphic sources.

Over a quarter of the entire collection, 228 letters, are kept in the Vatican Library, and 136 letters are addressed to the great archaeologist Giovanni Battista de Rossi (1822-1894). Many discoveries of the precious remains of the Christian Roman world are due to de Rossi, *scriptor* and director and guardian of the Christian Museum, that belonged to the Library until 1999. From 1854 he collaborated with Mommsen in the compilation of the CIL (*Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum*), for which a committee was organized in 1847 and was led by Mommsen. The missives to de Rossi were written between 1847 and 1893 and therefore cover practically the whole life of the Roman scholar, from his years of education until his death.

As the editor points out, “Theodor Mommsen, the very image of the German conception of the knowledge of antiquity, on account of his exuberant vitality, his boundless desire for knowledge and communication, for the vastness of his interests, for his intelligence and expository capability, both embodied and synthesized the scholar of the ancient world, a model that ought to remain as a constant point of reference.”



Theodoro Mommsen



## Visit of Mrs. Emma Madigan, Ambassador of Ireland to the Holy See



The first of the two manuscripts, dating back to the first half of the eighteenth century, contains a copy of the Ossianic tale, *Tóruigheacht Taise Taoibhghile*. It was found for the cardinal by Fr. John Connolly (1750-1825), O.P., prior of St. Clemente (later Bishop of New York), as evidenced by a note from the Dominican friar inserted in the manuscript and dated 1802.

The origin and the date of the second manuscript presented to the guests remains unknown. It includes eleven poetic compositions that refer to different people; a twelfth composition contains only the title and a verse, followed by a note in Latin, *Poemata varia in lingua hibernica*. Parthalán Mac Aodhagáin, O.F.M., identified the compositions by Ranald Macdonald in the Eigg Collection, first published in 1776 under the title *Comh-chruinneachidh orannaigh Gaidhealach le Raonuill MacDomhnuill ann'n Eilean Eigg*.

We thank the welcome guests for their visit and extend our best wishes to Mrs. Madigan and her family: *Slán go fóill*, Mrs. Madigan.

**L**efore leaving Italy and her position as Ambassador of Ireland to the Holy See, H.E. Mrs. Emma Madigan wished to visit the Apostolic Library. In the early afternoon of August 2, accompanied by her brother Edward and three officials of the Embassy, the kind lady visited the Vestibule of the Library, or Room of the *scriptores*, the monumental Sistine Hall, and the two reading rooms created during the pontificate of Leo XIII.

The guests showed a particular interest for the ancient history of the Library, but also for some aspects of the most recent history and for its organization. They were also pleased to view the two Irish paper manuscripts of the collection belonging to Card. Stefano Borgia (1731-1804), *Borg.irl.1* and *Borg.irl.2*.

The collection of Card. Borgia includes 2,500 manuscripts in twenty different languages. After the cardinal's death, it was kept in the library of the Congregation of Propaganda Fide until 1902, when it was transferred to the Vatican.



## Three Provençal songbooks now available online

Three important Provençal songbooks were recently digitized and made available online thanks to the contribution of the company Assicurazioni Generali Italia S.p.A. - Agenzia Generale Acquirerme.

Medieval songbooks in Romance literature are poetic sylloges, primarily containing lyric poetry. The Provençal troubadour poets constituted central figures of the poetry of medieval France, whose compositions in verse and music contributed to the development of a particularly refined poetic codex, and were intended for performance in front of an audience.

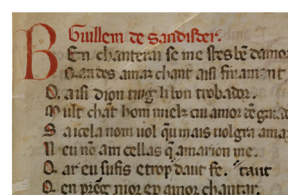
Although many compositions date back to the eleventh century, no surviving songs were composed before the mid-thirteenth century for literature in *lenga d'òc* (Provençal) nor for the *langues d'oïl* (French). At the end of the thirteenth and at the beginning of fourteenth century, songs were composed in Italian and Galician-Portuguese; in the fourteenth century in Catalan; in the fifteenth century in Castilian. The reason for the rather late date of the written testimonies depends in part on the fact that the songbooks would replace, or rather eliminate, the older codices, perhaps, written from texts of a single troubadour, with authentic lyrical anthologies similar to those that have survived. In most cases, they deal with love poetry, but some also are the subject of moral, religious or political themes.

The amorous ideal of the troubadours has influenced many poets of later generations, including Dante and Petrarch. The importance of this lyrical poetry is that it represents the first form of European poetry produced outside the clerical sphere and because it was written in the vernacular.

The three codices belonged to Card. Pietro Bembo (1470-1547). Inherited by Torquato Bembo, they were then sold to Fulvio Orsini (1529-1600), who gave them to the Vatican Library. The inventory of books that were donated by Orsini to the Vatican and that arrived in 1602, is preserved in the codex *Vat. lat. 7205*, published by Giovanni Beltrami in 1886.



\* *Vat.lat.3207*, *Poetarum Prouenzalium*, 13th cent., was copied in the Paduan area (between Padua and Treviso). This piece is particularly interesting because it is not a copy of a previous example, but the scrap paper of a scholar who was collecting texts from various sources, simultaneously carrying out the activities of choice, collection, rearrangement, and edition.



\* *Vat.lat.3208*, *Poetae Prouenzales*, 14th cent., was made in northern Italy, probably in Veneto. It contains 152 lyric compositions attributed to 44 troubadours. The binding, which was made with boards covered with red leather, is datable to the 18th cent. (coats of arms of Pius VI and Cardinal Librarian Saverio Zelada).

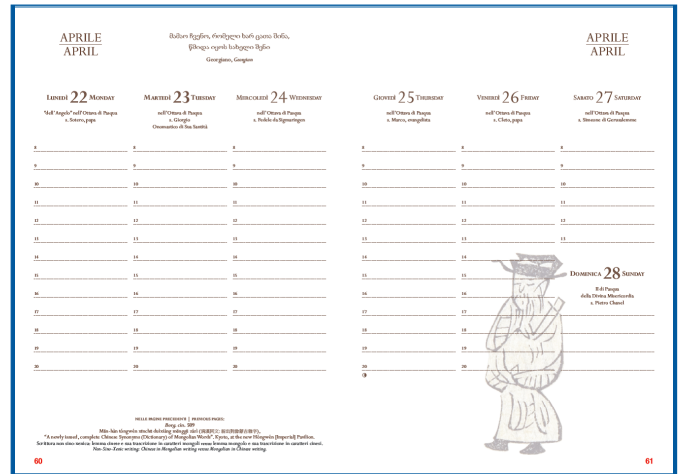
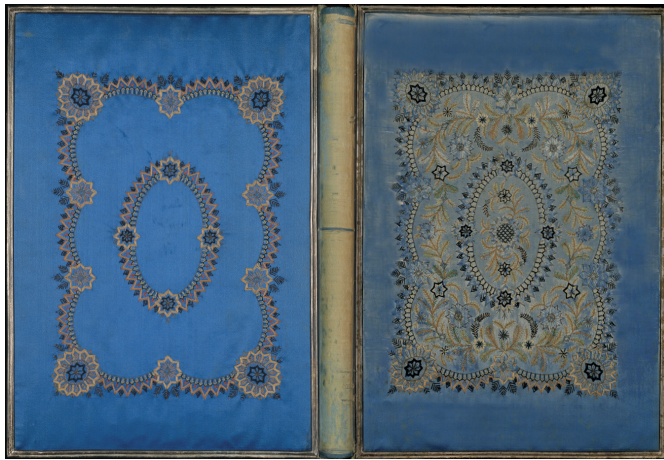


\* *Vat.lat.3203*, *Livre dou Tresor*, in French, 14th cent., from northern France. The *Tresor* constitutes the first encyclopedia in the vernacular and included almost all the science known at that time. In the Orsinian inventory the codex is registered as follows: "Brunetto Latini written in the Provençal language touch of Petrarch's hand in the margins, in parchment folios, and bound in crimson velvet". Transported to Paris on the basis of the Treaty of Tolentino (1797), it returned the Vatican after the Congress of Wien (1815).



## Daily Planner 2019

«Time demands of every human being to survey the plethora of possibilities and design a path that is all his own. In 2019 as well, the agenda of the Vatican Apostolic Library provides a space to chart that journey, illustrating it through the documents that it preserves, in which the memory of both individual and collective stories is vividly portrayed»



«We dedicate the leitmotiv of this year to languages, alphabets, and scripts»



### Michaelmas daisies

“Dreamy and so full of heaven. Trifling flowers, hardly seen in store windows, as florists consider them too common. In bunches, in open spaces, they create stains along the hedges, at the edges of the gardens, like poor relatives. They usually die on the stem, where they are born. But many butterflies take their color so as to become more beautiful, to be taken as flowers and not to be eaten by birds. On my grave, bring me many Michaelmas daisies.”



C. Angelì, “Autumn (and other seasons)”, 1959

- Alan Baron
- Pina Bartolini
- Åke Bonnier
- Laura Cretara
- Simona Giampaoli e familiari
- Angelo Grilli
- Frank Hanna
- Warren Kirkendale
- Edwin Mok
- Pierino Monassi
- Chiara e Giovanna Montauti
- Mariastella Pelliccioli Lorioli
- Paolo Portoghesi
- Francesco Parisi
- Marco Petreschi
- Bill Teuber
- Patrizio Turi
- Scott & Lannette Turicchi
- Luciana e Francesco Varisco
- Paola Veroi
- Bruna Volpi Fumagalli

# Grazie

- Dedagroup S.p.A.
- Digita Vaticana Onlus
- Generali Italia S.p.a. - Agenzia Generale di Acquiterme
- Heydar Aliyev Foundation
- IAPS-Istituto di Astrofisica e Planetologia Spaziale, Roma
- INAF-Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica
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