

AN ACCUMULATIVE INDEX OF PAPAL DOCUMENTS CONCERNING
CHURCH UNITY

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INTRODUCTION

Church Unity

The Popes of recent times have become identified with particular fields which they stressed during their reigns. Thus, for example, Pope Leo XIII is often referred to as the Pope of Labor and Pope St. Pius X as the Pope of Frequent Communion. During and since the time of these Popes much study and research has been done in these fields to the great benefit of the Church and the world in general.

There can be little doubt but that the present Holy Father, Pope John XXIII, will be known in history as the Pope of Church Unity. Hardly a document comes from his pen or an address from his lips without some reference to this important topic. Thus we should not be surprised at the ever increasing evidence of interest and research in this field and can expect such to continue many years.

Whenever greater stresses and new applications of the Church's doctrines are made there is the danger that many people will be unaware of the preparation that Divine Providence has made for it. The traditional teachings of the Church are so easily neglected, misunderstood or overshadowed. As a result most people would be surprised how frequently the present Pope's predecessors touched and enlarged upon

Church Unity. Yet only now is it coming to be recognized as greatly urgent. These earlier documents have paved the way for today's interest. They will uphold and direct the progress of the future in this vital problem - Church Unity. For a true and comprehensive understanding of papal teaching in this regard much study and research must be made of all available documents touching this field.

Purpose of the Index

This Index has been compiled to promote and simplify study and research on Church Unity here in the Archabbey and Major Seminary. An attempt has been made to provide a simple and convenient Index of modern papal documents which provide some insight into the position of the Church concerning Church Unity. This includes not only the problem of schismatic Orientals but also of the heretical Protestant brethren. Even the conversion of pagans is considered. Besides the few major writings devoted expressly to these topics there are many occasional addresses and writings which touch upon them, either directly or indirectly. Examples of the latter include little known documents such as Alacre Studium, a letter to Abbot Isidore Croce, Abbot ordinary of the Community of Santa Maria di Grottaferrata on the occasion of the ninth centenary of the death of St. Bartholomew of Rossano, which is entirely devoted to Church Unity, or just passing references as are found in Fidentem Piumque which is actually devoted to the subject

of the Rosary. Yet only by bringing all such papal documents together for close study can the whole teaching of the recent popes be obtained.

Contents

In order to allow this Index to be more thorough and therefore more useful its extension has been limited. Only the documents from Pope Leo XIII to Pius XII, the five former Popes, are included. The selection of documents in such a case as this is somewhat selective. It would be impossible² to include all subjects related to Church Unity. Thus preference has been given to those which expressly treat the subject and those which include or help to formulate general principles or guides which can be applied to this problem.

Each document thus chosen has been entered upon a separate 3x5 card. These cards contain as much of the following information about the document as is known to be available in the Archabb^y Library.

1. Official Title (Incipit)
2. Author
3. Type of Document (encyclical, address, etc.)
4. Date
5. Occasion and to Whom
6. General Topic
7. Source of Official Text
8. English Translations

9. Commentaries

Scholarly work must make use of original documents. Thus the sources of the texts as officially promulgated by the Holy See is an important part of this Index. This part is complete. For many of the documents of Pope Pius XII two official sources are available, the Acta Apostolicae Sedis and Discorsi e Radiomessaggi di S. S. Pio XII. Only one reference has been entered on the cards and that has been from the Discorsi whenever possible. The references to translations also constitutes an important part of the Index. Two references have been included whenever possible to different translations. Usually one is taken from a periodical and another from an anthology of papal documents. Thus for the document Quas Primas translations are cited in the American Catholic Quarterly Review and in Ryan's book The Encyclicals of Pius XI. This will enable a comparison to be made between translations of important and difficult parts of a particular passage. The Commentaries which have been referred to were taken from those listed by Sr. Claudia in her Guide to the Encyclicals. No special effort has been made to bring this rather old work up to date nor to enlarge upon it. When many articles were listed reference is made to her book.

Sources

This Index has been made possible largely with the help of two books. The first, That They may be One, by Gregory

Baum, O.S.A., furnished a bibliography consisting of the recent papal documents cited in his text. This was somewhat enlarged upon and continued up to the end of the reign of Pope Pius XII. The second book, Dictionary of Papal Pronouncements - Leo XIII to Pius XII, by Sister M. Claudia, I.H.M., provided most of the sources referred to in the Index. But additions were made where possible and only those references were used which are available in our library at present. Though this has reduced the number of references it makes the entire Index functional to those for whom it is intended, the members of the monastery and seminary who have access to the Archabbey Library.

Form

The use of 3x5 cards was adopted to make the Index more adaptable to research work. This will also enable the Index to be enlarged and brought up to date periodically. Space has also been left on the cards to enter new references when they become available. The entries of the individual documents in the Index are in chronological order. In order to help identify poor references which give only the name of a document a second set of cards has been included and are arranged alphabetically according to their Incipits. This set of cards contain only the document's date, enabling its entry to be found in the main set of cards.

Conclusion

Thus it is hoped that this Index will help promote and simplify further research in the problem of Church Unity in our monastery and seminary. Certainly such should be of great interest to every Priest and Seminarian, as it is to our Holy Father, Pope John XXIII.

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE INDEX

AAS - Acta Apostolicae Sedis
ACQR - American Catholic Quarterly Review
AL - Leonis XIII Pontificis Maximi Acta
Am. Eccles. Rev. - American Ecclesiastical Review
APD - Pii X Pontificis Maximi Acta
ASS - Acta Sanctae Sedis
Cath. Action - Catholic Action
Cath. Charities Rev. - Catholic Charities Review
Cath. Mind - Catholic Mind
Cath. Period. Index - Catholic Periodical Index
Cath. World - Catholic World
Claudia (Guide) - Guide to the Encyclicals, 1879-1937
Claudia (Pius XII) - Guide to the Documents of Pius XII
Discorsi - Discorsi e radiomessaggi di S. S. Pio XII
Doheny - Papal Documents on Mary
Dublin Rev. - Dublin Review
East. Ch. Q. - Eastern Churches Quarterly
Eccles. Rev. - Ecclesiastical Review
Hom. & Past. Rev. - Homiletic and Pastoral Review
Husslein - Social Wellsprings
Irish Eccles. Rec. - Irish Ecclesiastical Record

Koenig - Principles for Peace

Lawler - The Rosary of Mary

Nat. Cath. Almanac - National Catholic Almanac

Ryan - The Encyclicals of Pius XI

TPS - The Pope Speaks

Wynne - The Great Encyclical Letters of Pope Leo XIII

Yzermans (1956) - The Unwearied Advocate

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