

Section 2: A New Age in Human Development

From 1000 *anno Domini* to 1499 *anno Domini*

An Explosion of Cultural, Political, and Scientific Experiences

Early Renaissance

The Roman Catholic Church and the advent of diverse Catholicism and Christianity

Eleventh Century

c.1000

Period between 1000 and 1300 known as the High Middle Ages.

Estimated Christian portion of the world's population is 19%.

Tradition suggests that Leif Erickson reaches North America from Greenland.

Judaism marks approximately 4,760 years in existence.

During the Reigns of:

John XVII (John Sicco) May 16 - November 6, 1003

John XVIII (John Fasanus) December 25, 1003 - July, 1009

Sergius IV (Peter) July 31, 1009 - May 12, 1012

Benedict VIII (Theophylact) May 17, 1012 - April 9, 1024

[Antipope Gregory 1012]

1009

Muslims led by Caliph Hakin sack Jerusalem. The Christians most revered place of worship, The Church of the Holy Sepulcher on the Hill of Golgotha is destroyed.

1012

Burchard of Worms authors *Decretum of Canon Law*.

1014

King Brian Boru commanding Irish defeat Danish Vikings at Clontarf.

Benedict VIII crowns German King Henry II as Holy Roman Emperor (Holy Roman Emperor). Henry apprises Benedict of the German use of the Creed. Benedict includes it in Roman Mass liturgy. Both attend synod at Ravenna, dealing with clergy regulations.

1016

Benedict participates in sea war against Saracens (Muslims).

1018

Kingdom of Scotland founded.

1022

Henry II and Benedict fight armies from Byzantine Empire invading Italy.

**During the Reign of John XIX (Romanus)
April 19, 1024 - October 20, 1032**

1024

Benedict dies April 9, his brother, Romanus, a layman, elected as John XIX.

c.1025

Mass changes require that non-ordained are no longer allowed to receive Communion in the hand; dispensed only by a priest onto the tongue. Traditionally, laity received no more often than once or twice a year.

Avicenna, Islamic scientist and philosopher

1028

Zoe (Constantine VIII's daughter) becomes Byzantine empress, marries Romanus III Argyropoulos, and installs him as co-emperor. (refer: 1034)

1031

Henry I (France) crowned.

**During the Reign of Benedict IX (Theophylact)
October 21, 1032 – September, 1044
Returning to Papacy twice.**

1032

Theophylact (John XIX's nephew), also a layman, becomes Benedict IX (age of 14). Later, he sold the Papacy to his godfather, John Gratian (Pope Gregory VI). Over the next several years Benedict exchanged the title two more times with Popes Sylvester III and Clement II (a German appointed by Emperor Henry III).

1033

(-1109) Life of Anselm of Canterbury, author of the ontological argument for the existence of God (refer: Elaboration-Arguments)

1034

Duncan I becomes the first General Ruler of Scotland.

Zoe (Byzantine empress) poisons Romanus III, marries Michael IV Paphiagonian.

1039

(r. - 1056) Henry III, *The Black*, (Germany) deposed three popes and annexed Burgundy.

1040

Macbeth seizes the Scot kingdom and is killed by Duncan's son.

Archdeacon Berengarius' (France) heresy claimed no change in substance of bread and wine-Christ only spiritually present in Eucharist.

During the Reigns of:

Sylvester III (John of Sabina) January 20 – March 10, 1045

Benedict IX (Theophylact) March 10 – May 1, 1045

Gregory VI (John Gratian) May 1, 1045 – December 20, 1046

Clement II (Suidger) December 24, 1046 – October 9, 1047

Benedict IX (Theophylact) November 8, 1047 – July 16, 1048

Damasus II (Poppo) July 17 - August 9, 1048

A six-month vacancy followed.

1045

Gregory VI reigns from May resigning in December.

1049

Henry III's nominee, Poppo, another German, became Damasus II, lasted 22 days.

During the Reign of Leo IX (Bruno)

February 12, 1049 – April 19, 1054

A one-year vacancy followed.

c.1050

Lanfranc, Archbishop of Canterbury, begins the use of logic to refute controversial teachings. (Refer: Elaboration-dialectic)

The icon “Moses Receiving the Law Before the Burning Bush” written at the Greek Orthodox Saint Catherine’s Monastery in the Sinai (oldest active Christian church).

1050

King Edward, the Confessor, installs Leofric first bishop in Exeter, England (Cathedral of St. Peter).

1053

Pope Leo IX’s army defeated by Normans in southern Italy. Pope imprisoned.

1054

Michael I Cerularius, Patriarch in Constantinople closes all Latin churches. Roman and Eastern churches excommunicate one another. (refer: 1965)
Orthodox churches of Greece, Cyprus and Russia number 218 million.
Europe has over 500 bishoprics under one hierarchy.

During the Reigns of:
Victor II (Gebhard) April 13, 1055 – July 28, 1057
Stephen IX [X] (Frederick of Lorraine)
August 2, 1057 – March 29, 1058
[Antipope Benedict X (John Mincius)
April 5, 1058 - January 24, 1059]
Nicholas II (Gerard) December 6, 1058 – July 19 (or 26), 1061

1056

(r. - 1106) Henry IV King of Germany and Holy Roman Emperor (refer: 1076)

1057

Malcolm III MacDuncan marries Margaret, a Saxon princess who had fled the Normans. As Queen, she introduced the English language and Monastic customs. Margaret is canonized in 1250.

1059

Beginning of the election of popes by The College of Cardinals.

In a synod at Melfi, Pope Nicholas II promised the then Muslim-controlled Sicily to the Normans.

c. 1060s

Cathedral school of Notre Dame

1060

(r. - 1108) Philip I , King of France

During the Reign of Alexander II (Anselm)

September 30, 1061 – April 21, 1073

[Antipope Honorius II (Peter Cadalus)

October 28, 1061 – May 31, 1064]

1061

Alexander II (Anselm) was elected with help of the Normans.

c. 1065

Rashi (Rabbi Shlomo Yitzchaki) authors guides to biblical and rabbinic writings.

1066

William of Normandy (the Conqueror) invades England, defeating Harold (last Saxon king) at Hastings. Helped by Archdeacon Hildebrand, who later is Pope Gregory VII. French becomes the language of the royal court in England.

1071

Seljuk Turks close all Christian pilgrimages to the Holy Land.

During the Reign of Gregory VII (Hildebrand)

April 22, 1073 – May 25, 1085

A one-year vacancy followed.

[Antipope Clement III (Guibert)

June 25, 1080 and March 24, 1084 – September 8, 1100]

1073

Gregory VII initiated the title “Pope for the supreme pontiff.”

1074

(-1122) Lay Investiture Controversy, especially in Germany. Major conflicts between secular and Church authority (royal control of religious activities including appointment of bishops. and Church in civil matters).

1076

Matilda, Marchioness (Countess) of Tuscany, led troops in northern Italy repelling Henry IV. (refer: 1081)Gregory VII wrote Christians and Muslims must respect each other as “We believe in one god...”

Henry IV called a synod of German bishops who deposed Gregory VII who, in turn excommunicated Henry. Henry does penance. They reconciled. Then in 1084, both repeated the process.

c. 1078

Gregory made celibacy mandatory for clergy. Priests’ wives and children lost their inheritances as Church hierarchy seized all properties under control of the deceased. *Dictatus Papae* includes 27 descriptions of Gregory’s papal authority. They may not have all been written by him, but were placed in the Papal Registries. Two include: The pope, alone, may approve or dispose of bishops. The pope and his actions may not be judged by anyone.

Theologian Hildebert Archbishop of Tours provides extensive insight into Transubstantiation. (refer: 1215)

1078

Philosopher Anselm in *Proslogium (Of God)* defines the Deity as “A being, than which nothing greater can be conceived to exist.”

1080

Henry IV and German bishops elect Antipope Clement III, bringing him to Rome. Henry is then re-confirmed as Holy Roman Emperor.

1081

For militarily supporting Pope Gregory, Henry IV puts Matilda of Tuscany under house arrest.

c. 1082

Henry IV and Norman Robert Guiscard were fighting in southern Italy. Gregory VII flees Rome for Salerno (dies, May 1085).

1085

William the Conqueror commissioned the *Domesday* book, a survey of 13,000 English settlements; included a census and names of all property owners.

During the reign of Victor III (Dafer [Daufari or Desiderius])

May 24, 1086

A one-year vacancy followed.

Victor III returns May 9 – September 16, 1087

A six-month vacancy followed.

1086

While Antipope Clement III is reigning, Victor III elected on May 24. Rome in chaos, despondent after one day, he gives up papacy returning to previous position as Abbot at Monte Cassino.

1087

In May, Victor resumed papal responsibilities (dies in September).
Matilda of Tuscany financially supports Odo (aka Eudes) as the future Pope Urban II over the Antipope Clement III. (refer: 1133)

During the Reign of Urban II (Odo [Eudes])

March 12, 1088 – July 29, 1099

1095

Byzantine Emperor Alexius Comnenus asks Pope Urban II for help defending against the Muslim Turks attacks. Urban understood that action was necessary for the survival of Eastern Europe and the Holy Lands.

Pope preaching of a *sacrum bellum* (holy war) at a church council in Clermont, France, declares, "God wishes it," launching the First Crusade. Urban also offers all participants who die a plenary indulgence (remission of all temporal punishment due to sin).

1096

(-99) First Crusaders, en route to the Holy Lands, pause to murder more than 15,000 Jews in France and along the Rhine Valley in Germany.

1097

(-98) Crusaders capture Nicaea and Antioch.

c. 1098

Jews migrate from Bohemia to Poland.

Anselm completes *Cur Deus Homo* maintains that God became man in order to suffer and die on the cross. (refer: 1130 and 1141)

1099

Crusaders liberate Jerusalem that had been under Muslim control since 638.

**During the Reign of Paschal II (Rainerius)
August 13, 1099 – January 1, 1118
[Antipope Theodoric September, 1100 – January, 1101]
[Antipope Albert (Adalbert) 1101]
[Antipope Sylvester IV (Maginulf)
November 18, 1105 – April 12, 1111]**

Twelfth Century

1100's

Explosive rocket developed in China.

Improvements in loom design allow factory textile production.

1100

(-11) Four antipopes challenge Paschal II's authority.

Conflict of West emperor's right to appoint priests, bishops, cardinals, and popes.

Church continues to demonize Jews, including Jewish features in depictions of the Devil. [Editor's note: Not dissimilar to the later British practice of monkey-like features of all Irish.]

(r. - 35) Henry I (England), son of William I

1106

Paschal II supports Henry IV's son to unseat his father.

(r. - 25) Henry V Saxon Dynasty (Germany)

1107

Concordat of London signed by Henry agrees to allow popes to pick bishops, but each must swear allegiance to the king. (refer: 1122)

1108

(r. - 36) Louis VI (France)

c. 1110

Pope Paschal II exercises exclusivity in appointing clergy. Henry V briefly imprisons him.

Henry V crowns himself Holy Roman Emperor; threatens to depose Paschal II.

During the Reigns of:
Gelasius II (John of Gaeta)
January 24, 1118 – January 29, 1119
[Antipope Gregory VIII (Maurice Burdinus)
March, 1118 – April, 1121]
Callistus II (Guido)
February 2, 1119 – December 14, 1124

1118

Archbishop Guido of Vienna (future Pope Callistus II) excommunicates Henry V.

1119

Callistus II issues papal bull *Sicut Judaeis* in defense of the rights of Jews.

1122

Pactum Calixtinum (Concordat of Worms), signed by Henry V and Callistus was a temporary agreement allowing the pope's religious appointments and the emperor, all others. It also condemned French theologian, Pierre Abelard for his teachings on the Trinity.

1123

Callistus II opened the Ninth Ecumenical Council: Lateran. This was the first of such held in Rome.

Discussions included Papal authority over bishops and abbots and the need to recover the Holy Land from invaders.

Lateran also abolished the historical practice of princes ratifying their authority with a ring and crosier. This prerogative was to be granted only to the ordained.

During the Reign of
Honorius II (Lamberto of Ostia)
December 21, 1124 – February 13, 1130
[Antipope Celestine II (Teobaldo Boccapecci)
December 15 - 16, 1124]

c. 1126

Honorius II approves Order of Knights Templar. A group founded by Hugh de Payns is organized to offer escort-protection to pilgrims on their way from Jaffa to Jerusalem. They are initially called *The Poor Knights of Christ of the Temple of Solomon (or of Jerusalem)*; later named the *Knights Templar(s)*. (refer: 1307)

**During the Reign of
Innocent II (Gregorio Papareschi)
February 14, 1130 – September 24, 1143
[Antipope Anacletus II (Pietro Pierleoni)
February 14, 1130 – January 25, 1138]
[Antipope Victor IV (Gregorio Conti)
March, 1138 - May 29, 1138]**

c. 1130s

Gothic architecture develops in northern France (Italian writer, Giorgio Vasari coined term in mid 1500s, as inferior to Classical).

1130

Roger II, Norman, forms the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies.

The moment Honorius II dies, some Cardinals elect Gregorio Papareschi (Innocent II) while others elect Anacletus II (Antipope).

With Rome in uproar, Innocent flees to France.

Abelard, counters Anselm maintaining that Christ came to show all how to live, not for the Father's will for crucifixion. (refer: 1141)

1131

(- 33) Lothair, Duke of Saxony, with Innocent II, tames Rome. Pope gives him Matilda's estates in Tuscany.

Innocent crowns him Holy Roman Emperor. After Lothair departs, fearing Anacletus, Innocent runs off to Pisa.

1137

End of Germany's First Reich

(r. - 80) Louis VII, King of France

1139

Second Council of the Lateran called.

Priests may not marry, but married men may become priests.

It denounced the heresies of Arnold of Brescia.

1141

Council of Sens condemns Anselm (the Anselm of c. 1098) a heretic.

During the Reigns of:
Celestine II (Guido of Citta di Castello)
September 26, 1143 – May 8, 1144
Lucius II (Gherardo Caccianemici)
May 12, 1144 – February 15, 1145
Eugene III (Bernardo Pignatelli)
February 15, 1145 – July 8, 1153

1144

Construction of the first Gothic-style architecture, the Saint Denis Basilica of Abbot Suger.

1145

Lucius II dies while leading military attack on Rome's bureaucrats. A new pope seated within hours.

Eugene III called for the Second Crusade, which began in 1147. It was financed and co-led, Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine, her current husband, France's Louis VII and Germany's Conrad III.

c. 1145

Prior to his papacy, Nicholas Breakspear (Adrian IV) evangelized Scandinavia.

1147

Louis VII abducts Eleanor from her uncle, Raymond of Antioch and has marriage annulled in 1151.

c. 1150

Vatican's Sacred College of Cardinals founded.

1150

Benedictine monk, Bernard de Morlaix's poem *De Contemptu Mundi* includes an observation that there was not one good woman on earth.

1152

Eleanor of Aquitaine marries Henry Plantagenet, the future Henry II of England.
(r. - 90) Frederick I, Barbarosa, is ruler of Germany and Holy Roman Emperor.
(refer: 1159)

**During the Reigns of:
Anastasius IV (Corrado)
July 8, 1153 – December 3, 1154
Adrian IV (Hadrian IV) [Nicholas Breakspear]
December 4, 1154 – September 1, 1159**

1154

(r. - 89) Henry II (England) with Queen Eleanor also control two-thirds of France. As part of Henry's crown inheritance, Adrian IV (Hadrian IV) issues a papal bull giving him Ireland.

Henry names Thomas Becket, Arch-deacon of Canterbury and Chancellor of England. (refer: 1162)

c. 1155

Hildegard von Bingen (Germany) writes *Book of Simple Medicine* and *Book of Medicine Carefully Arranged*. Later becomes an abbess. (refer: 1170)

1156

Ruairi (Roo-A-Ree) O'Connor of Connacht becomes High King of Ireland.

1159

Adrian IV (Hadrian IV) excommunicates Holy Roman Emperor Frederick I after he occupies northern Italy. Two days later (September 1st), Adrian dies after "ingesting a fly while drinking from a fountain."

**During the Reign of Alexander III
(Orlando [Roland] Bandinelli)
September 7, 1159 – August 30, 1181
[Antipope Victor IV (Ottaviano)
September 7, 1159 – April 20, 1164]
[Antipope Paschal III (Guido of Crema)
April 22, 1164 – September 20, 1168]
[Antipope Calistus III (Giovanni)
September, 1168 – August 29, 1178]
[Antipope Innocent III (Lando)
September 29, 1179 – January, 1180]**

1159 (continued)

Six days later, on September 7th, some Cardinals elect Octaviano (Antipope Victor IV) while others choose Rolando (Alexander III). Romans and all Cardinals accept Victor. After leaving Rome, several disgruntled Cardinals reaffirm Alexander III.

c. 1160

Moses ben Maimon (aka Moses Maimonides) writes his interpretation of the *Mishnah* (the legal code of Jewish law) and historical Talmudic discussions, calling this work *Mishnah Torah* (aka *Yad ha-Chazaka* [Strong-hand]). He also authored *Moreh* (*The Guide for the Perplexed*), a classic of Jewish philosophy. Chinese use explosives in warfare.

1162

Henry II names Thomas Becket Archbishop of Canterbury (became a priest on June 1st and a bishop on June 3rd). Over the next ten years he fought Henry on the King's right to appoint clerical fiefs (estates) and the power of ecclesiastical courts. (refer: 1170)

c. 1165

Syrian bishop Dionysius Bar Salibi's book, *Response to the Arabs* was an appeal for harmony among Christians and Muslims.

c. 1167

Development of the University of Oxford.

(-1227) Genghis Khan unites Mongols. Within 100 years they become largest land empire in history. (refer: 1189)

1169

Anglo-Norman invasion of Ireland.

Alexander III congratulates Henry II on conquering "the ignorant and undisciplined race, wallowing in monstrous and filthy vice."

1170

Henry curses Thomas Becket's disloyalty. He is murdered in the Canterbury Cathedral; second of four such deaths of Canterbury Archbishops.

Hildegard von Bingen writes *Liber divinorum operum*, a trilogy of apocalyptic, prophetic, and symbolic visions. Consultant to popes, emperors, kings, and bishops; dies in 1179.

1171

In October, Henry II, landing at Waterford, is the first English King to come to Ireland.

Alexander writes bishops of Ireland to fully support the King.

Pope refers to him as "Our most dear son in Christ, Henry," and then deeds Ireland to the King.

1176

Council of Albi condemns *Manichaeism* (which holds two opposing creative principles, one good and the other evil; rejects the Old Testament; salvation is by pure reasoning; and infant baptism is inadequate). (refer: 1179)

1178

Second Crusade disintegrated with failure at Damascus.

1179

Third Lateran Council (Eleventh Ecumenical Council) conducted by Alexander III and the no-longer excommunicated, Holy Roman Emperor Frederick I.

Council condemned Waldensians who promoted preaching and poverty for all clergy.

Canon 24 notes, "Jews should be slaves to Christians and at the same time treated kindly due to humanitarianism."

Denounced Albigensian heresy (a revival of Manichaeism) which equates principles of good and evil in the material world and questions papal theological dominance as restrictive and exclusive. (refer: 1210 and 1218)

1180s

Belief in the Immaculate Conception of Mary spreads.

Kabbalah, the Jewish mystical tradition regains popularity. (refer: c. 1280)

1180

Phillip II (Augustus) crowned King of France which then consisted of Paris and surrounding areas.

During the Reigns of:
Lucius III (Ubaldo Allucingoli)
September 1, 1181 – November 25, 1185
Urban III (Umberto Crivelli)
November 25, 1185 – October 20, 1187
Gregory VIII (Alberto de Morra)
October 21, 1187 – December 17, 1187

1181

Lucius III became pope the morning after Alexander III's death.

1182

Notre Dame Cathedral consecrated. The Cathedral school evolved into a *stadium general* (general study-place), or university, becoming the University of Paris. Many study centers (Bologna, Rome, Madrid, etc.) also grew into *Studiums Generale*.

1185

Kamakura Shogunate (chief generalship) founded in Japan. Daimyos (lords) and Samurai (warriors) proliferate.

Cathedral at Lincoln (largest diocese in England) destroyed by earthquake. Henry II fearfully stops plundering Church revenue; appoints French monk, Hugh of Avalon as new bishop and architect. This first English Gothic structure is completed in 1280.

Urban III assumed papacy within a few hours of Lucius' death.

1187

Salah al-Din (aka Saladin), Sultan of Egypt, a Kurdish-Muslim, (also considered The Antichrist), with victory at Hattin, occupies Jerusalem (the second time). He destroys practically all Jewish and Christian artifacts.

Urban III died on October 20. Gregory VIII took over the next morning, reigning 56 days.

Gregory ordered the Third Crusade (see 1189). Gregory died on December 17th.

Clement III elected two days later.

**During the Reigns of:
Clement III (Paolo Scolari)
December 19, 1187 – March, 1191
Celestine III (Giacinto Bobo)
March/April, 1191 – January 8, 1198**

1189

Genghis Khan begins invasion of Asia. (refer:1210)

(r. - 99) Richard I, The *Lion Hearted* (the son of Eleanor of Aquitaine and Henry II), ruled England and almost all of France.

Clement III initiates the Third Crusade led by Holy Roman Emperor Frederick Barbarossa (Germany), Richard I (England), and Philip II (Augustus) of France (Louis VII's son). Barbarossa drowns in 1190.

Richard I is captured in Vienna by Leopold, Duke of Austria, turned over to and imprisoned by Henry VI (Germany). Richard's mother, Eleanor of Aquitaine raises first installment of a ransom. Pope Celestine excommunicates Henry and everyone loyal to him.

Richard is released and Henry's excommunication is voided.

1191

Henry VI (Germany) crowned Holy Roman Emperor by Celestine III.

Phillip II returns to France, leaving Richard I alone.

By 1192, problems with his brother, John, back in England forces Richard I to end the fighting. Crusader losses are 95,000 (of 110, 000). Saladin's Muslim Empire still in control of *The Holy Lands*.

**During the Reign of Innocent III (Lotario)
January 8, 1198 - July 16, 1216**

1198

January 8th Celestine III dies. Innocent III immediately assumes papacy.

Innocent declares that a pope is the *Vicar of Christ*. He formalizes the Roman Inquisitions; condemns the *Magna Carta* as an illegal encroachment on God's anointed Monarchs.

1199

Richard I dies; replaced by his brother, John.

Thirteenth Century

1202

(- 04) The Fourth Crusade; Venice provided ships in return for knights capturing Zara from Hungary. Their patron, Eastern Emperor Alexius IV was murdered (replaced by a hostile Alexius).

Joachim of Flora (died 1202) had preached that the era of the Holy Spirit would succeed the era of Christ from 1260 onward. In 1216, the Council of Lateran, under Pope Innocent III, condemned these heretical Trinitarian beliefs of the Joachimites.

1204

Some Crusaders invade, loot, and murder Orthodox Christians of Constantinople. (refer: Elaboration-Crusades)

Eleanor of Aquitaine, Richard's mother, dies.

Beginning of the Latin Empire of Constantinople

1206

Muslim Turkish power was consolidated in India with the installation of the Sultanate at Delhi.

1208

(- 09) Pope Innocent orders the Albigensian Crusade against the heretic Catharists of Albi (mostly women). They held that Eve was not at fault for the fall in the Garden of Eden, but that God allowed her to be used by Satan.

Another massacre of heretic women and children follows at Beziers. (refer: 1226)

1209

Francis (Bernardone) of Assisi, never ordained, established the Franciscan Order and Friars Minor by verbal consent of Innocent III; documented in 1223 by Honorius III. Cambridge *Stadium Generale* (general study-place) was founded. It was later named the University of Cambridge.

Clare Scifi, with approval of Cardinal Ugolino (later, Gregory IX), founds order Poor Ladies (or Clares).

c. 1210

King Philip II (Augustus) France enforces papal order, burning Amalrician heretics (God identified with the universe: no difference between good and evil; religious ceremonies are over-done; all men and women are equal and potentially divine).

1210

Innocent III's "Holy War" against Manichaeism and Albigensianism (Albibensianism)- evils of the material world and questioning papal theological dominance as restrictive and exclusive. See years 1178 and 1218.

Mongols, with over 60,000 horsemen, invade Near East and China. (refer: 1240)

1212

Children's Crusade leaves France for the Holy Land. Some 50,000 children are lost or sold into slavery in Marseilles and Egypt.

Valladolid (Spain) Stadium Generale (later, University of Valladolid) founded.

1215

King John signs Magna Carta at Runnymede, England. Document includes Church and nobility privileges and assured jury trials.

Fourth Lateran Council (Twelfth Ecumenical) called.

Some details:

It formally prohibited new clerical organizations.

Defined the Devil as the instigator of sin.

Decrees, "Outside the Church there is no salvation."

Orders established by which Jews and Muslims must wear identifying special dress. They also had to wear an identifying finger ring. (refer: 1555)

Council provides the dogma of Transubstantiation (reaffirmed by Council of Trent, 1551).

Establishes sequence of primacy within the Church; the Pope, followed by the Patriarchs of the Sees of Constantinople, then Alexandria, Antioch, and Jerusalem.

Investigated concept of confession by the un-ordained to a priest as a rite of the Church.

The Council forbade priests and deacons from performing any surgical procedures.

Ordered meetings to address moral reform for all clergy.

[Some particulars: Lateran IV, which enhanced papal power and strengthened clergy authority, is considered the most important council of the Middle Ages.

(-50) Frederick II rules Germany.

Pope Innocent III declares Magna Carta null and void.

During the Reign of Honorius III (Cencio Savelli) July 18, 1216 – March 18, 1227

1216

Honorius III assumes office two days after Innocent's death.

Pope approves Dominic Guzman's adaptation of the "rule of Augustine of Hippo" establishing Dominican Friars as a teaching order. Later, popes charge them with facilitating Papal Inquisitions.

(r. - 1272) Henry III (England) reigns.

1218

Honorius organized a crusade against Muslims in Spain and the Albigensian heretics.

1220

Honorius III crowned Frederick II Holy Roman Emperor to persuade him to lead the Fifth Crusade. Even under the standard threat of excommunication, the Emperor refused.

1222

Mongols invade Russia.

1223

(-26) France's king Louis VIII renews fight against Albigensian (aka Cathars/ Catharists/ Cathari) heretics. (refer: 1243 and 1318)

1224

Emperor Frederick II founds the University of Naples.
Francis of Assisi restages the nativity in the first Crèche (aka Presepio).
He is thought to be first Stigmatic. (refer: Elaboration)

1225

(-74) Dominican, Thomas Aquinas born. (refer: 1273)

c. 1226

Honorius orders that his writings and decrees be the basis of religious and legal teachings at universities.

1226

(-70) Louis IX reigns as King of France. Leads crusades in 1248 and 1270, when he died of plague, in Tunis. Canonized as Saint Louis in 1297 by Pope Boniface VIII.

**During the Reign of Gregory IX (Ugo [Ugolino])
March 19, 1227 – August 22, 1241**

1227

Urban III dies the evening of March 18. Gregory becomes pope the next morning.
Genghis Khan dies.

1228

Frederick II led the Sixth Crusade into Egypt. Outraged, Gregory excommunicates and declares that Frederick was no longer King of Germany (Germans and others ignore the Pope, even under threat of excommunication).

1229

Frederick travels to Jerusalem, crowning himself King.
Inquisition at Toulouse, France prohibits reading of the Bible by the non-ordained.

c. 1230

(c. - 1340) In Africa, the Mali (Islamic) form Timbuktu into a center of commerce in gold, leather goods, and slaves.

1230

Frederick II defeats Papal troops in Rome commencing an eight-year truce with Gregory IX.

1231

Gregory and Frederick organize the first Inquisition in Germany to more formally combat heresy. Later, the Pope sends judges throughout Europe.
Gregory condemns the Jewish *Talmud*.
Pope grants a charter to the University of Paris.

1233

University of Toulouse (France) founded.

1234

Gregory IX excommunicates Emperor Frederick II (again); calling him a heretic and the anti-Christ.
Raymond Pennafort (aka Penaforte/ Penyafort) by direction of Pope Gregory IX, assembled a new canonical collection, replacing all former collections. He left out more than 383 previous papal decisions, modified others and omitted parts of many. This document was named *Decretales Gregorii IX* (a decretal is a letter containing a decretum or pontifical decision).

c. 1240

(c. - 50) *Universal Chronicle of Metz*, a mythical story of "Pope" Joan (exposed as fabrication in 17th century).

1240

Mongols invade Moscow and destroy the city of Kiev.

1241

Battle of Mohi (Battle of Sajo River), Mongol's Bata Khan defeats King Bela IV of Hungary in the main battle of the invasion of Europe. Later the death of the Great Khan of the Mongols, Ogedei Khan, averts further expansion.
Gregory dies on August 22nd.

During the Reign of Celestine IV (Goffredo da Castiglione)
October 25 – November 10, 1241
A one and one-half year vacancy followed.

1241 (continued)

Celestine IV's reign lasts 16 days. Frederick imprisons two cardinals and their staff. He delays the next election.

1242

King James I of Aragon requires Jews to listen to conversion sermons; term Conversos applied to all Jews who become Catholic.
In Paris, King Louis IX of France orders all copies of the Talmud burned.

During the Reign of Innocent IV (Sinibaldo Fieschi)
June 25, 1243 – December 7, 1254

1243

Catharist heretics lose battle of Montsegur Castle. More than 200 burned to death on a pyre.

1244

Juliana of Cornillon, an Augustinian nun in Belgium, persuaded Bishop Robert de Thorete to establish the feast of *Corpus Christi*. Historically, bishops had this authority. (refer: 1264)

1245

Innocent IV's Thirteenth Ecumenical Council (First General Council of Lyons)

Main purpose was to depose Emperor Frederick II;

Attended by four patriarchs.

Directed a new crusade led by Louis IX, King of France against the Saracens and Mongols.

1250

Roger Bacon invents the magnifying glass.

Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II dies. Replaced by Conrad IV through 1254.

c. 1251

Becoming a feudal lord of Sicily and portions of southern Italy, Innocent IV moves papal office to Naples.

During the Reigns of:
Alexander IV (Rinaldo, Count of Segni)
December 12, 1254 – May 25, 1261
Urban IV (Jacques Pantaleon)
August 29, 1261 – October 2, 1264
Clement IV (Guy Foulques)
February 5, 1265 – November 29, 1268
A two-year, nine-month vacancy followed.

1258

Mongols sack Baghdad, ruling Iraq and Iran through 1336.

1260

Kublai Khan founds China's Yuan dynasty.

1264

Urban IV's bull *Transiturus* declares the Feast of Corpus Christi a world-wide feast day.

Thomas Aquinas' compositions for *Corpus Christi* include:

Panis Angelicus (Bread of Angels); modern music by Cesar Franck, 1872.

Pange Lingua (Fifth verse begins *Tantum Ergo*).

Verbum Supermum Prodiens (Last two stanzas begin *O Salutaris Hostia*).

Kublai Khan establishes capital at Beijing.

1269

Peregrinus de Maricourt designs the 360-degree compass.

During the Reigns of:
Gregory X (Tedaldo Visconti)
September 1, 1271 – January 10, 1276
Innocent V (Pierre of Tarentaise)
January 21 – June 22, 1276
Adrian V (Hadrian V [Ottobono Fieschi])
July 11 – August 18, 1276
John XXI (Pedro Juliao [Peter of Spain])
September 8, 1276 – May 20, 1277
Nicholas III (Giovanni Gaetano)
November 25, 1277 – August 22, 1280

1271

King Phillip III (France) came to Rome in March to force cardinals to elect a pope. Locking them in Papal palace, Phillip has roof removed, and denies them “more appetizing” foods.

Marco Polo’s 24-year exploration to China begins

In September, cardinals elect a non-priest Tedaldo Visconti (Gregory X).

c. 1272

John Fidanza (Bonaventure) was asked by Pope Gregory X to negotiate an end to the Greek Orthodox and Western churches’ schism. The short-lived truce was agreed to at the Council of Lyons (1274).

1272

(r. - 1307) King Edward I of England

1273

Thomas Aquinas develops his *Summa Theologica*, a combination of faith and reason, science and religion, human thought and revelation, including five proofs of God’s existence. In conclusion of the proofs, Aquinas states, “Therefore, it is necessary to arrive at a prime mover, put in motion by no other; and this, everyone understands to be God.”

Aquinas proposed a theological compromise to Augustine’s theology. Limbo (from the Latin, “limbus” or “boundary”) for non-baptized babies would provide natural happiness but not heaven.

Aquinas maintains that Jews who reject Christ may no longer be considered to be invincibly ignorant but are rather intentionally defiant.

Reflecting on gender differences, he said, “Woman is defective and misbegotten.”

Aquinas stopped writing in 1273; dying the following year. (refer: 2007 and Elaboration-Arguments)

The Great Interregnum, a 19-year period without a Holy Roman Emperor, ends with the election of Count Rudolph of Hapsburg as Germany's king and Holy Roman Emperor (-91).

1274

Fourteenth Ecumenical Council (Second General Council of Lyons);

Eastern representatives temporarily agree to Western Creed and supremacy of pope over the whole Catholic Church.

Discussions ensued on means of recovering Palestine from the Muslim Turks.

New rules for papal elections were established.

Edward I occupies Wales.

1275

Charles of Anjou orders that cardinals must meet within ten days at city of a pope's death to begin election process.

1276

Innocent V irritated Emperor Charles by discussing a new crusade with Eastern Emperor Michael. Innocent dies after five-month reign.

Charles of Anjou appoints a new pope, Adrian V (Hadrian V); reigns 37 days.

John XXI, a doctor, elected; he should have chosen "XX" (there had not been a John XX). He reigned from a palace in Viterbo. Cardinal Orsini ran the papacy.

John XXI condemns 19 of Thomas Aquinas' propositions as heretical (refer: 1323).

After an eight-month reign, an advisor reports that the Pope died as a result of "a ceiling falling on his head."

1277

Cardinal Orsini becomes Nicholas III and is elected a Roman Senator.

This year marks the beginning of major reconstruction of the Basilica of Saint Peter's.

1279

Mongol Empire stretches from the east coast of Asia to the Danube River and from Siberia to the Arabian Sea.

c. 1280

The first recorded forced segregation of Jews was in Muslim Morocco. Areas were called *Mullahs*. (refer: Ghetto-1516)

Cenni di Pepo (Cimabue) paints *The Flagellation of Christ* considered to be the rinascita (rebirth) of art in Florence, Italy.

Moses de Leon, a Spanish-Jew Kibbalist (a spiritual-mystic student), authors *Ha-Zohar ha-Qadosh (The Holy Zohar)*. This mystical novel, written in Aramaic, is a commentary on the *Torah*, the five books of Moses.

During the Reigns of:
Martin IV (Simon de Brie [Brion]) February, 1281 – March, 1285
Honorius IV (Giacomo Savelli) April, 1285 – April, 1287
Nicholas IV (Girolamo Masci) February, 1288 – April, 1292
A two-year, three-month vacancy followed.

1281

Charles of Anjou secures the papacy for Martin IV (a Frenchman).
Pope Martin excommunicates Eastern Emperor Michael.

1282

Jacobus de Voragine, Archbishop of Genoa compiles *Legenda Aurea (The Golden Legend)* a collection of the lives of the saints.

1285

Eyeglasses designed by Hans Speyer.

1290

Edward I expels all Jews from England. (refer: 1656)
Earthquake in Chihli, China kills over 100,000.

1291

Muslims conquer Acre, last area held by Christians. (refer: Acre)

1293

In Spain, *Alcala Studium Generale* (general study-place, later, University of Alcala) founded.

During the Reigns of:
Celestine V (Pietro del Morrone) July 5 – December 13, 1294
Boniface VIII (Benedetto Caetani)
December 24, 1294 – October 11, 1303

1294

In July, Charles nominates Celestine V who moves Papal Court to Naples, resigning in five months.
Benedetto Caetani becomes Pope Boniface VIII, imprisons Celestine, who dies 18 months later (May, 1296).

c. 1295

Most of western Mongols have been "Islamized".

1295

Boniface moves Papal Court back to Rome.

Marco Polo returns to Venice.

A Berlin ordinance forbade wool merchants from selling yarn to Jews. (refer: 1571)

1298

Invention of the spinning wheel

Fourteenth Century

1300s

Irish and Scottish monks continue written preservation of many significant religious, historical, social and scientific data (one example is work completed at Roslyn chapel and castle in Scotland).

c. 1300

The period through c. 1500 is referred to as the Late Middle Ages.

Venetians introduce glass mirrors.

1302

Boniface issues his papal Bull, *Unam sanctam*, asserting that salvation requires one to be subject to the Roman Pontiff.

During the Reigns of:
Benedict XI (Niccolo Boccasino)
October 22, 1303 – July 7, 1304
A one-year vacancy followed
Clement V (Bertrand de Got) June 5, 1305 – April 20, 1314
A two-year, four-month vacancy followed.

1303

University of Rome chartered by Boniface VIII. In September, Sciarra, head of the Colonna family, attempts a kidnap/assassination of Boniface.

In October, Boniface unexpectedly dies.
Benedict XI (Niccolo Boccasino) elected.

1304

Benedict XI's Papal Bull, *Unam Sanctum*, the ultimate claim of the pope's supremacy and control. (His reign lasts eight months.)

1305

Philip IV (France) orchestrates the election of Clement V (Bertrand de Got, Archbishop of Bordeaux).

Pope appoints nine new all-French cardinals (five were family members). Clement V, never visited Rome but, in 1309, moved papal *Curia* to Avignon, France (this, some seventy-year period, through 1377 is called the *Avignon Exile* and the *Babylonian Captivity of the Papacy*).

During the *Avignon Exile*, later popes, Clement VII and Benedict XIII, excommunicated Rome's popes Urban VI, Boniface IX, Innocent VII, and Gregory XII, all of whom, in return, excommunicated the others.

1306

(r. - 29) Robert the Bruce, King of Scotland, killed a rival in church. Pope Clement V excommunicated him, hoping for an uprising by the Scots. This did not take place, so Clement excommunicated every citizen of Scotland.

1307

Earlier, as Bertrand de Got, Archbishop of Bordeaux, Clement V had been excommunicated by Gauthier of Poitiers for disobeying pontifical orders and remaining inflexible. Now, as Pope, he sentenced Gauthier to death.

(r. - 27) Edward II, King of England

Throughout France on October 13, 1307 (known forever after as the unlucky Friday the 13th) King Philip IV raided Knights Templar groups, imprisoning 620 including the Grand Marshall, Jacques De Molay as well as most of the organizational leadership (It was estimated that 3000 other Knights were able to escape from this butchery). Torture resulted in the confessions of abuse of the Cross, disobedience to the wishes of popes, and a variety of totally unfounded claims.

The geopolitical reasoning for this was a need to limit the growing power and stature of the Knights as well as to seize their hidden assets. Over just a few years all 620 were tortured to death.

After fruitless attempts to secure some support from Pope Clement V (who, by the way, had been appointed through Phillip's influence), Jacques De Molay was *slow-cooked* to death in 1314.

Previously, in 1312, after more than 150 faithful years of service to the Church, Clement had formally dissolved the Knights Templar.

Phillip, still strapped for cash, billed Clement for the incarceration, torture, and operating costs of the Chenon Tower Prison (the papacy reimbursed the king).

1311

(-13) Fifteenth Ecumenical Council: Vienne held in this small town in France by Clement V, the first of the Avignon popes.

Philip IV (France), Edward II (England) and King James of Aragon had made appearances.

Crimes and errors by Knights Templar and other subversive groups were discussed.

Other deliberations included possible new crusades and (the ever-popular) ethical reformation of the clergy.

Giotto paints the *Maesta* for the altar of the Siena Cathedral; a portion of which includes 11 panels depicting the Trial of Jesus.

1314

(r. - 30) Frederick of Austria abolished any papal sanctions necessary for the election of Holy Roman Emperors.

At the Battle of Bannockburn, Robert the Bruce gains Scottish independence from England.

Dante Alighieri (1265-1321) authors the *Divine Comedy (Commedia)* outlining Christian afterlife of hell, purgatory, and heaven.

He was imprisoned, exiled from Florence, for expressing belief that Church must share power with civil authority (a position believed to be beyond his right to voice).

Dante described Hell's nine circles or rings, each dealing with specific sins. The worst, most vile sin was the betrayal of trust (example, Judas). Dante consigns Celestine V and Boniface VIII to this ninth level for their betrayal of God's assigned responsibilities as popes.

(r. - 16) King Louis X (France)

Pope Clement V dies; over two years pass until the next pope is elected.

**During the reign of John XXII (Jacques Duèse)
August 7, 1316 – December 4, 1334
[Antipope Nicholas V (Pietro Rainalducci)
May 12, 1328 – July 25, 1330]**

1316

France's Phillip V reigns through 1322.

1317

For almost 100 years, members of a Franciscan general chapter called *Zelanti* (or Spirituals), observing that Christ and the Apostles owned nothing, had practiced and preached poverty for all clergy. John XXII's Bull (in 1322) called this heretical teaching. Upholding the right of clergy to own property, defense included the fact that Apostles, indeed, had possessions.

Four of the more outspoken *Zelanti*, refusing to discontinue, were burned at the stake. France's Salic Law excludes women from succeeding to the throne.

1318

Inquisition of Toulouse under Bishop Jacques Fournier is established to eliminate threat of Albigensian (aka Cathars / Cathari) heresy. (refer: Reign-1334)

1320

Scottish Parliament's *Declaration of Arbroath* advises Pope John XXII of their independence from papal control.

1322

(r. - 28) Charles IV, last of the Capet family French kings

1328

(r. - 50) France's, King Phillip VI, first of the House of Valois (refer: 1574)

1331

John XXII's analysis of heaven caused the University of Paris to condemn him as a heretic.

1323

Thomas Aquinas canonized by John XXII.

1327

(r. - 77) Edward III, King of England

1328

(r. - 50) Phillip VI, King of France

1332

England invades and controls Scotland.

**During the Reigns of:
Benedict XII (Jacques Fournier)
December 20, 1334 – April 25, 1342
Clement VI (Pierre of Rosier d'Egleton)
May 7, 1342 – December 6, 1352**

1337

(-1453) The Hundred Years' War, feudal clashes develop into inter-national conflict. Ends English dynastic claims in France.

1338

Emperor Louis IV's Diet of Frankfort (German states' meeting) affirmed that royal authority came from God and did not need papal authorization. Benedict XII choose not to publicly object.

1346

Clement VI excommunicates Louis IV, later crowns Charles IV, his protégé, Holy Roman Emperor.

1347

A merchant ship from Crimea, in central Asia, docked at Messina, Sicily with flea-infested, ill sailors and rats, all of whom were infected with the Bubonic Plague bacterium; the *Black Death* had arrived in Europe. By 1351, it had killed up to one-half of the population.

1348

Queen Joan of Naples sold the city of Avignon (France) to Clement VI.

Jews in Italy, France, Germany and the Iberian Peninsula, blamed for the *Black Death* plague, are slaughtered by the thousands. Clement VI writes several letters objecting to these events.

Plague crosses from England to Ireland. Irish refer to it as the *Great Mortality*.

University of Prague founded.

Clement appoints his 19 year-old nephew, Pierre de Beauforta, cardinal; later becoming Gregory XI.

During the Reigns of:
Innocent VI (Etienne Aubert)
December 18, 1352 – September 12, 1362
Urban V (Guillaume de Grimoard)
September 28, 1362 – December 19, 1370
Gregory XI (Pierre Roger de Beaufort)
December 30, 1370 – March 27, 1378
Urban VI (Bartolomeo Prignano)
April 8, 1378 – October 15, 1389
[Antipope Clement VII (Cardinal Robert of Cambrai)
September 20, 1378 – September 16, 1394]

1360

Henri de Vick develops the mechanical clock.

1367

Urban V moves back to Rome.

1368

(-1644) Ming Dynasty of China

1376

(-85) Dominican Catherine of Siena author of *Treatise on Divine Providence* and advisor to Gregory XI (the last French pope) and Urban VI. (refer: Elaboration-Doctors of the Church)

Catherine cautioned Gregory to appoint only righteous and holy cardinals. If he doesn't, she warns, "...a disaster to Holy Church."

John Wycliffe (Wyclif), English Catholic priest, criticizes the sale of indulgences and clergy wealth (refer: Council of Constance, 1414-17). He preached against the supremacy of the pope, superiority of the Catholic Church and opposed belief in Transubstantiation (Christ present in consecrated host). Wycliffe produced an English translation of the Bible (refer: 1382, 1414)

1377

Catherine advised Gregory XI to move the Holy See back to Rome.

(r. - 99) Richard II (England)

Papacy uses Inquisitions in France, Germany, and Spain to suppress heresy.

Later, in the Massacre in Cesena, a citizen revolt forces Gregory to leave Rome.

1378

Gregory XI died March 27th.

Some details follow:

Cardinal Orsini claimed the papacy for three days; April 4th to 7th.

The College of Cardinals consisted of 90 French, 14 Italian, five Spanish, and one English. Eleven of the total of sixteen cardinals assembled to elect a pope were French.

After Urban VI's election on April 8th, the opposition group of non-Italian cardinals led by Cardinal Robert of Cambrai (or Geneva), left Rome.

Urban VI immediately selected 29 new cardinals to help offset any disloyalty.

[Editor's note: As of 2006 there are 193 Princes of the Church; 120 fit the voting eligibility, maximum age of 80.]

French members claimed that they were under duress and forced to elect Urban VI. Voiding the initial vote, they then elected Robert of Cambrai as Clement VII (Antipope).

Over the next sixteen years, Clement VII had the support of Cyprus, France, Ireland, Naples, Portugal, Scotland and Sicily.

Urban VI was supported by England, Hungary, Germany, Northern Italy, and Poland.

The Great Western Schism was a period of major, rival claims to power between the antipopes and popes For almost 40 years until 1417, there are two Vicars of Christ, a pope in Rome and another in Avignon (each, continually referring to the other as anti-pope).

1382

English Synod condemned Wycliffe's teachings. He died in 1384. (refer:1414)

1386

Founding of the University of Heidelberg, the oldest in Germany. (refer: 1621)

1387

Geoffrey Chaucer worked through 1400, producing a collection of stories entitled *The Canterbury Tales*, dealing with Thomas Becket. His Prologue notes, "To Canterbury they come, the holy blessed martyr there to seek, who gave his help to them that were sick."

1395

(-97) Margrethe of Denmark occupies Sweden. The coalition with Norway results in a united Scandinavia.

**During the Reign of Boniface IX (Pietro Tomacelli)
November 2, 1389 – October 1, 1404**

1390

(-1410) Thomas Chillenden begins reconstruction (in the current Gothic style) of the Canterbury Cathedral.

Sultan Bajazet's Ottoman Turks conquer all of Asia Minor. (refer: 1402)

1391

Jews of the Iberian Peninsula, called *Sephardim*, unsuccessfully revolt against repression; thousands murdered.

1395

Boniface IX, lacking cash, sells offices, indulgences, and problematical deeds to church property.

Fifteenth Century

1402

The Great Khan Tamerlane extends his empire into Asia Minor with the defeat of Turks. Saint Mary of Bethlehem is England's first hospital for the mentally ill.

**During the Reigns of:
Innocent VII (Cosimo Gentile de'Migliorati)
October 17, 1404 – November 6, 1406
Gregory XII (Angelo Correr)
November 30, 1406 – July 4, 1415
A two-year, four-month vacancy followed.
[Antipope Alexander V (Pietro Philarghi [Peter of Candia])
June 26, 1409 – May 3, 1410]
[Antipope John XXIII (Baldassare Cossa)
May 17, 1410 – May 29, 1415]**

1404

Cardinal-lawyer Cosimo de Migliorati's (Innocent VII) prompt election occurs. Only eight cardinals had yet to assemble when the single vote was cast.

1405

Gang led by Pope's nephew, Ludouico Migliorati, murders 12 protesters.

Riots caused Innocent to flee Rome.

Christine de Pizan (Pisan) is the first self-supporting female author. Works including *The Book of Three Virtues* and *The Treasure of the City of Ladies* reflect on concerns over growing misogyny. (refer: 1429)

(-30) Chinese military leader Zheng He's fleet visits 30 countries across the Indian Ocean.

1406

(r. - 15) Pope Gregory XII elected.

1409

Cardinals' Council at Pisa deposed both Gregory XII and Antipope Benedict XIII. Supported by Bohemia, England, France, Northern Italy and Prussia, they elect Antipope Alexander V (in June through May 1410) and in May 1410, Antipope John XXIII.

1411

(r. - 37) Sigismund becomes king of Germany.

1413

(r. - 22) Henry V reigns over England.

1414

Jan Hus (aka John Huss), Rector and Dean of Philosophy, University of Prague, is critical of abuses by clergy and sale of indulgences by John XXIII (Antipope), Huss attempted to establish a Bohemian national church. (This became the first of the surviving Protestant churches.)

He declared ecclesiastical obedience to be an invention of the hierarchy, beyond Scriptural authority. (refer: 1457)

King Sigismund ordered Antipope John XXIII to call the Sixteenth Ecumenical Council: Constance (Council of Constance, through 1418).

The Council condemned John Wycliffe, posthumously, as a heretic.

Jan Hus, guaranteed safe-conduct, was invited to speak. He is declared a heretic and burned at the stake in 1415.

c. 1415

Emperor Manuel II Paleologus says, "Show me just what Mohammed brought that was new, and there you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached." (refer: 2006)

1415

In July Gregory XII is forced to abdicate. [Some particulars: This constitutes a two and one-half year vacancy in official papal succession until Martin V's appointment.]

**During the Reign of Martin V (Oddo Colonna)
November 11, 1417 - February 20, 1431
[Antipope Clement VIII (Gil Sanchez Munoz)
June 10, 1423 – July 26, 1429]
[Antipope Benedict XIV (Bernard Garnier)
November 12, 1425 - ?]**

1417

In November, the Council of Constance elects Martin V. No vote tabulation or appeals were allowed. Martin immediately proclaims that the choice was by God.

c. 1420

Martin V initiates what is to be later known as the Renaissance Papacy.

1422

(r. - 61) Charles II becomes king (France).

England's Henry V dies at 34, replaced by son, Henry VI who is deposed in 1461, murdered in the Tower of London in 1471.

1425

Antipope Benedict XIV elected and immediately disappears.

1426

Masaccio painted fresco, *The Trinity*, in the church of Santa Maria Novella, Florence. [Some particulars: One of the first significant three-dimensional works. Covered in 1570 by order of the Medici family with Giorgio Vasari's wooden panel, *Madonna of the Rosary*; rediscovered in 1861.]

1429

Jeanne d'Arcy (aka Joan d'Arc) promised King Charles that she would oust the English from northern France. Joan's army won at Orleans (May 8th).

In July, the Bishop of Beauvais imprisoned her. Charles ignored her plight. With direction from the papacy, she was tried as a heretic and traitor. (A portion of complaint included "inappropriate physical appearance, a cap on her head and hair cropped in man's style, wearing the garments of a man and carrying weapons.").

Christine de Pizan's poem, *Jeanne d'Arcy*, celebrates a woman's military leadership. On May 24, 1431, at Roven, she was executed by burning at the stake. (refer: 1457)

During the Reign of Eugene IV (Gabriele Condulmaro)
March 3, 1431 – February 23, 1447
[Antipope Felix V (Amadeus VIII, Duke of Savoy)
November 5, 1439 – April 7, 1449]

1431

Eugene IV (Gabriele Condulmaro), Gregory XII's nephew, is elected. Pope immediately clashes with the Colonna family (Martin V's relatives who had previously received properties and extensive financial control over other papal holdings).

Colonnas force Eugene to flee Rome. Eugene broadens his use of the mercenary, Francesco Sforza and his forces.

Seventeenth Ecumenical Council:

Basle/ Ferrara/ Florence met in three locations through 1439; called by Eugene and Sigismund to address religious pacification of Bohemia.

Council members forbade Jews from attending any university.

In Florence, the Papacy enjoyed a short-lived union with the Greek Church.

1433

Pope Eugene crowns Sigismund, Holy Roman Emperor. He dies in 1437.

1438

(-1806) German House of Hapsburg held titles as Holy Roman Emperors.

(r. - 39) Albert V of Austria (Sigismund's son-in-law) crowned king of Hungary and Holy Roman Emperor (under name Albert II).

1439

Council of Basel elected Amadeus VIII, Duke of Savoy, as Felix V, an alternative to Eugene IV. Eugene compromised by making this antipope a cardinal in 1449.

c. 1440

Fra Giovanni of Fiesole (Latin tag, "pictor angelicus", the angelic picture-maker) works include *Christ Crowned With Thorns* and *The Attempted Martyrdom of Saints Cosmas and Damian*. He is considered as the most important painter of the renaissance in Florence.

Bishops use a Crosier (staff with a crook on top), a symbol of their spiritual authority. (Pope Paul VI [r. 1963-78] changed the formed crook to a cross.)

1440

(r. - 93) Frederick III, House of Hapsburg, Holy Roman Emperor, King of Germany

During the Reign of Nicholas V (Tommaso Parentucelli)
March 6, 1447 – March 24, 1455

1447

Kings Frederick III (Germany) and Charles VII (France) convince cardinals to elect Nicholas V (Tommaso Parentucelli). Nicholas crowns Frederick III, Holy Roman Emperor

1449

Under death threat, Antipope Felix V abdicates.

Statute of Toledo (Iberia later, Spain) bans Jews from holding public office. This is condemned by Pope Nicholas.

1450

Nicholas proclaims a Jubilee Year.

Pope has extensive collection of manuscripts with plans to organize them. (refer: 1475-Sixtus)

Manuel Paleologos II, the last Byzantine emperor in Christian Constantinople, asked what new ideas Muhammad had brought to religion other than spreading faith by the sword.

Population of Europe estimated at 50 million.

1452

Lozenzo Ghiberti completes *The Gates of Paradise* doors at the Baptistry of Sangiiovanni Florence, Italy.

1453

Johannes Gutenberg prints the *Bible* with a moveable metal-type press.

The Hundred Years' War ends.

Assassination plot against Nicholas V. Conspirators executed.

Under Fatih Sultan Mehmet II, Muslim Turks capture Constantinople (name changed to Istanbul), murdering thousands of civilians. Hagia Sophia (Church of Holy Wisdom of God) Basilica desecrated and converted into a mosque. No retaliation takes place as the Western Emperor and kings are indifferent or frightened. In 1935 it became the Ayasofya Museum.

During the Reign of Callistus III (Alfonso de Borja [Borgia])
April 8, 1455 – August 6, 1458

1454

Nicolaus of Cusa's *De Pace Fidei* (Peace Among the Religions) asks Muslims and Christians to respect one other and the Jews.

Cosimo de'Medici negotiates the Peace of Lodi in which the five major states of Italy, Florence, Milan, Naples, the Papacy, and Venice agree to get along.

1455

The first Spanish (Iberian) pope, Callistus III. [Some particulars: He was elected in a compromise with the French cardinals. Beginning of the de Borja (Borgia) family Vatican influence.] (refer: 1492)

1457

John Hunyadi, Governor of Hungary, defeats Muslim Turks at Belgrade. Papacy initiates special church taxes. Germany refuses to pay, operating own national churches.

Unitas Fratrum (Unity of Brethren), later known as the Moravians founded by followers of Jon Hus.

Callistus promotes Borgia family members, including two cardinals and the Prefect of Rome.

Pope initiates Feast of the Transfiguration.

Roman Inquisition finds Jeanne d'Arc innocent of the 1431 charges as heretic and traitor, regretting her execution. Pope reverses her excommunication. (refer: 1909)

During the Reign of Pius II (Enea Silvo) August 19, 1458 – August 15, 1464

1458

As a cardinal, Enea Silvo (Pius II) had worked for both Antipope Felix II and Pope Eugene IV.

1461

(r. - 83) Edward IV (England)

Pius published a letter to Muslim Sultan Mehmet II offering conversion to Christianity and the title, Emperor of the East. It is not known if the document was received and/or simply ignored (there is no record of acknowledgement).

1462

(r. - 1505) Ivan III (the Great) beginning of the Tsars (Caesars) of Muscovy.

During the Reign of Paul II (Pietro Barbo)
August 30, 1464 – July 26, 1471

1464

Pius dies while attempting to initiate another crusade against Sultan Mehmet II. Paul II (Pietro Barbo), Eugene IV's nephew, abolished College of Secretaries (cataloging of literary and historical data).

Bartolomea Platina, Papal Historian, imprisoned and tortured.

Papacy expanded collection of art and jewelry. Construction of the Palazzo di Venezia begins.

c. 1466

(-1536) Life of Geert Geerts (aka *Desiderius Erasmus*) Dutch theologian, scholar (refer: 1557)

1468

Paul II sanctions torture as an appropriate method to interrogate witches.

1469

Lorenzo de' Medici becomes ruler of Florence.

Queen Isabella I of Castile and King Ferdinand II of Aragon married. (refer: 1478)

c. 1470

(- c. 1570) Launch of the Italian Renaissance, the rebirth of classical learning; patronized by the Vatican and Florence, Italy's Medici family.

1470

Vatican publishes *Compendium Maleficarum*. The Textbook of Inquisition depicts witches as in league with the Devil. It also details methods for the identification of both witches and heretics.

During the Reign of Sixtus IV (Francesco della Rovere)
August 9, 1471 – August 12, 1484

1471

In late July, Francesco della Rovere bribed a dozen or more cardinals. Once elected, as Sixtus IV, he immediately consecrated six cardinals (all nephews) all of whom shared in the papacy's wealth.

Sixtus begins the rebuilding of Rome.

In France, King Louis XI expands control over Church affairs.

1474

Inca Empire rules from Ecuador to Argentina.

c. 1475

Invention of the rifle

1475

Birth of Michelangelo di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni (d. 1564) artist and sculptor. (refer: 1498)

Rabbi Jacob ben Asher's book *Turim (Four Rows)* categorizes all Judaism law. It is the first Jewish document to utilize the printing press.

Sixtus IV begins work on the structure, later called Cappella Sistina (Sistine Chapel).

As part of his proposed construction of a Vatican Library, Sixtus assembles more than 1200 manuscripts in Latin and Greek. (refer: 1498)

1478

The Pizzi Conspiracy, a gang headed by two of Sixtus' cardinal-nephews (one, the Archbishop of Pisa; both Pazzi family members), attack the de' Medici family of Florentine, murdering Giuliano and wounding leader, Lorenzo.

Queen Isabella I and King Ferdinand II appeal to Sixtus and are granted the establishment of an Inquisition. Over the years, more than 12,000 were murdered for their crimes. (refer: 1483)

With the birth of their son, Juan, the foundation for the political unification of Spain (largest state on the Iberian Peninsula) under grandson, Carlos I is formed. As Holy Roman Emperor he was called Charles V. (refer: 1516)

1480

Sultan Mehmet II invades Italy seizing city of Otranto. Offer of indulgences and a war tax help Sixtus to enlist troops. Coincidentally, Mehmet dies and the Muslim Turks withdraw.

c. 1481

Mongols defeated in Russia.

1483

Edward V crowned at 13 years old, imprisoned within six months and murdered at the Tower of London. His uncle, Richard III (r. - 1485), rules.

Dominican Tomas de Torquemada becomes the first Inquisitor General in Seville; appointed by Isabella and Ferdinand with Pope Sixtus IV's approval. (refer: 1492)

1484

Giovanni de' Medici (the future Pope Leo X) becomes a Cardinal and prince of the Church at the age of 14. During his reign, Sixtus IV consecrated more than 34 cardinals (few were priests).

**During the Reign of Innocent VIII (Giovanni Battista Cibo)
August 29, 1484 – July 25, 1492**

1484

Cardinals Rodrigo Borgia (future Pope Alexander VI) and Giuliano della Rovere, Sixtus IV's nephews, coordinate sufficient bribes to elect Innocent VIII. This prevents open warfare between the Colonna and Orsini families. However, they do continue to more selectively murder one another.

Innocent double-crossed della Rovere, who was in France on papacy business. Innocent arranged for one of his sons to marry Lorenzo de' Medici's daughter (Pope receives a loan and as a bonus, consecrates Giovanni, Lorenzo's 13 year-old son, a cardinal).

Pope presides over the marriages of his children at the Basilica of Saint Peter's. Innocent's bull, *Summis desiderantes affectibus*, calls for harsh treatment of the German witches and magicians. Clerics cite Old Testament writing, "Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live," Exodus [22:19]. (refer: 1692)

The English Pale defined residents of counties surrounding Dublin as Roman Catholic. Outsiders were discriminated against as the barbarian, uncultured Irish; called Celtic Catholics.

Pope commissions Inquisitors Hendrich (or Heinrick) Kramer and Jacob Sprenger of Germany to write the handbook on witch-hunting, *Malleus maleficarum* (*The Witches Hammer*); a tool used to identify and persecute witches. It recommended and detailed torture to elicit confessions. The University of Cologne endorsed the book. For the next three centuries, this work was the principle reference for witch hunters.

1485

Sweating sickness kills thousands of English. [Some details: It repeats in England in 1507 and 1518. The illness resurfaces in Europe in 1529, 1551, and 1563.]

(r. - 1509) Henry VII is first House of Tudor ruler of England.

Corp of Tower Guards (Beefeater) formed in London.

Johann Widman refines mathematics, using the (+) and (-) signs.

c. 1490

Cecilia Gallerani models for *Lady with an Ermine*, painted by Leonardo da Vinci.

**During the Reign of
Alexander VI (Rodrigo de Borja y Borja [Borgia])
August 11, 1492 – August 18, 1503**

1492

Alexander VI, a Borgia and Callistus III's nephew had been Vice-Chancellor of the Holy See for 31 years.

The Borgia (Borja) family increases influence in papal matters and power. Considered to be the most aggressive financial election in papal history, their purchasing process included four Cardinals, their families, friends and political leadership in "Spain", France, Milan, Naples and Venice.

Alexander fathered at least nine children among seven mistresses. His more famous children included: Cesare (1475-1507) and Lucrezia (1480-1519), Vannozza de' Cattanei's daughter.

Alexander's great grandchild, Francis Borgia, was the 3rd General of Jesuits. (refer: Elaboration-Borgias)

Following their occupation of the Iberian Peninsula for over 770 years, Muslims surrender the last stronghold at Granada.

Innocent VIII had authorized Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand to expand the "Spanish" Inquisition.

There is a fear of uprising by Moriscos (Catholic converts from Islam) and Marranos (pigs), converted Jews who secretly practiced their original faith. All suspected heretics are subjected to torture and murder. [Editor's note: Another term, Conversos applied to all Jews who had been baptized Catholic.]

Spain's Edict of Expulsion required that all Jews and Muslims must accept Christianity within three months or be sent into exile.

Pope Alexander VI welcomes many Jewish refugees to Italy. (refer: 1555)

Christopher Columbus sights land in the Bahamas.

Bartolomé de Las Casas authored the *Journal of the First Voyage*.

1493

Alexander arranged the marriage to two of his sons to supportive families in Spain and Naples. Arbitrates claims to the New World favoring Spain over Portugal with his *Inter caetera*. (refer: 1519,30,32)

Cesare, at 18, is awarded several bishoprics and at 19, is made a cardinal; never became a priest. As Master of the Papal States, Cesare arranged for the murder of his

brother, Juan, and dozens of others; kept Sebastian Pinzon, chemist and poison expert, on retainer.

Columbus leads subsequent voyages through 1504. Chaplain Friar Bartolo Meo de las Heras refers to the discoveries as *Terra Incognita* (Unknown World).

(r. - 1519) Maximilian I, of Germany's House of Hapsburg, assumes title of Holy Roman Emperor.

1494

Pope received bribes from Cardinal della Rovere to insure future backing (Rovere later became Julius II).

Ludovico Sforza of Milan asks, and Charles VIII of France agrees, to invade Italy to offset the threat of Naples under Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I.

c. 1495

Giulia Farnese, Alexander VI's primary mistress, becomes a principal papal advisor. She is referred to as the Queen of Rome.

1495

In Florence, Dominican Girolamo Savonarola denounces papal corruption, hoping French would invade and save Italy.

1497

Girolamo Savonarola, along with eight companions, is excommunicated, tortured, hanged; their bodies burned.

Vasco da Gama (Portugal) rounds the Cape of Good Hope and reaches India.

1498

The Vatican Library founded.

Michelangelo Buonarroti completes sculpture *Pieta* (*Pity*), the dead body of Christ on Mary's lap. (refer: 1504) [Some detail: *Pieta* is presently located in the Basilica of Saint Peter's.]

The Last Supper, a Fresco in the Convent of Santa Maria della Grazie, Milan by Leonardo da Vinci is unveiled.

1499

(-1502) Americus Vespucci of Florence makes four trips to the coasts of Central and South America; first European to discover the mouth of the Amazon River.