

**A POPULAR LIFE OF OUR  
HOLY FATHER POPE PIUS THE  
NINTH DRAWN FROM THE  
MOST RELIABLE AUTHORITIES**

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A Popular Life of Our Holy Father Pope Pius the Ninth Drawn from the Most Reliable Authorities by Richard Brennan

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**RICHARD BRENNAN**

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*Pius M. S.*

A POPULAR LIFE

OF OUR HOLY FATHER

POPE PIUS THE NINTH

DRAWN FROM THE MOST RELIABLE AUTHORITIES.

BY

REV. RICHARD BRENNAN, A. M.,

*Pastor of "St. Rose's Church," New York.*

"CAUTAM OPTIMAM TURBIDAM MINE ASSUMPSI."

[Rossi.]

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1877.



## Imprimatur,

† JOHN, CARDINAL McCLOSKEY,

*Archbishop of New York.*

FATHER BRENNAN'S "Life of the Holy Father" has my full approbation.

† JOHN M. HENNI, *Archbishop of Milwaukee.*

I am glad to learn that FATHER BRENNAN'S excellent work has had such a circulation.

† LOUIS, *Bishop of Burlington, Vt.*

I hope FATHER BRENNAN'S "Life of Pope Pius the Ninth" will be appreciated generally; it has my approbation.

† T. AMAT, C. M., *Bishop of Monterey and Los Angeles.*

I have directed that FATHER BRENNAN'S "Life of Our Holy Father" shall be favorably noticed in our paper, as it deserves to be.

† T. MULLEN, *Bishop of Erie.*

I have been edified by the perusal of REV. R. BRENNAN'S "Life of Our Holy Father," and have no doubt that it will prove truly a very popular work. It will enhance the feelings of affection and veneration for the Great Pontiff, which are already so deeply rooted in the hearts of the Catholic people, and begin to take hold even in the mind of the non-Catholic.

† JOS. P. MACHEBEUF, *Vic. Apus, Colorado.*

FATHER BRENNAN'S "Life of Our Holy Father" is a charming book, and deserves a place in every Catholic family library.

† JOHN J. HOGAN, *Bishop of St. Joseph.*

FATHER BRENNAN'S "Life of Our Holy Father" is well gotten up, and is destined to be popular.

† THOMAS FOLEY, *Bishop of Chicago.*

BRENNAN'S "Life of Pius the Ninth" is a beautiful and touching tribute to Our Holy Father.

† JOSEPH DWENGER, *Bishop of Fort Wayne.*

The "Life of Pope Pius the Ninth," by the REV. MR. BRENNAN, is a brief but well-written narrative of the leading facts in the life of our present illustrious Pontiff.

† THOMAS F. HENDRICKEN, *Bishop of Providence.*

FATHER BRENNAN'S "Life of Our Holy Father" I have looked over with pleasure. As a popular and accessible work it should command a large circulation.

† JAMES AUG. HEALY, *Bishop of Portland.*

I am very much pleased with FATHER BRENNAN'S "Life of Our Holy Father."

† J. TUIGG, *Bishop of Pittsburgh.*

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9-9-37 J.A.

TO

PIUS THE NINTH,

THE MOST MAGNANIMOUS OF RULERS, THE  
MOST FAITHFUL OF PASTORS, THE  
MOST LOVING OF FATHERS,  
THE MOST PATIENT  
OF SUFFERERS,

AS AN HUMBLE TRIBUTE

TO

HIS GOLDEN JUBILEE IN THE EPISCOPATE,

THIS VOLUME IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED

BY THE AUTHOR.



1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in financial matters.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. It highlights the need for consistent and reliable data sources to ensure the validity of the findings.

3. The third part of the document describes the process of identifying and addressing potential risks and challenges. It notes that proactive risk management is crucial for the success of any project or initiative.

4. The fourth part of the document provides a detailed overview of the results and conclusions drawn from the study. It discusses the key findings and their implications for future research and practice.

5. The fifth part of the document offers recommendations and suggestions for further action. It encourages stakeholders to take the necessary steps to implement the findings and improve their operations.

6. The sixth part of the document includes a list of references and sources used in the study. It provides a comprehensive list of the literature and data sources consulted during the research process.

7. The seventh part of the document contains a list of appendices and supplementary materials. These materials provide additional information and data that support the main findings of the study.

8. The eighth part of the document includes a list of figures and tables. These visual aids help to present the data in a clear and concise manner, making it easier to understand and interpret.

9. The ninth part of the document contains a list of footnotes and endnotes. These notes provide additional context and information related to the main text of the document.

10. The tenth part of the document includes a list of acknowledgments and a list of authors. These sections recognize the contributions of individuals and organizations that supported the research and writing of the document.

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## P R E F A C E .

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“**T**HE Supreme Power in the Church,” says the Council of Trent; “the full power of supporting, ruling, and governing the universal Church,” says the Council of Florence, “resides by divine right in the Pontiff of Rome, who, in quality of the successor of the blessed apostle Peter, is the true Vicar of Jesus Christ, the visible Head of the whole Church, the common Father and Teacher of all Christians.”

To aid him in the discharge of his manifold and onerous duties, the Roman Pontiff has his venerable brethren in the Episcopacy; for they too are divinely appointed to govern and teach in particular churches, though in subordination to the Supreme Head, whose sole right and privilege it is to convoke them in Council, to preside over them personally, or by his legates, in their deliberations, and to confirm their decrees.

Subordinate to the bishops, are the priests, the deacons, and other ministers, who have the more immediate care of the faithful.

Such is the unbroken hierarchical chain which unites the simple layman by his priest to his bishop, and by the bishop to the Vicar of Jesus Christ, and which combines two hundred millions of Catholics into what St Paul calls “one body, one spirit, having

one Lord, one faith, one baptism." This glorious bond of union is of divine institution.

Whenever our Saviour speaks of his Church, he employs expressions which imply the idea of unity and organization. It is a kingdom, a city, a house, a flock. He announces expressly his intention of uniting all those who believe in Him, in "one fold, under one Shepherd."

Among the twelve disciples whom he chose to form and feed his flock, and establish his Church, it was Peter whom he appointed to replace himself as the visible Head of all the flock, and as corner-stone of the mystic edifice, when he himself should have returned to his Father in heaven. "Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church. I will give to thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose upon earth shall be loosed also in heaven." "Confirm thy brethren. Feed my lambs, feed my sheep."

To say that the prerogatives of Peter must end with his death, is to say that the Church, to which Christ has promised eternal stability upon the rock where he has built it, must lose its foundations within a lifetime, and being deprived of its very strength, of him who holds the keys, must become a ruined habitation, open to every passer-by; it must be no Church at all, and the Divine Word has failed.

We Catholics, knowing such assertions to be blasphemous, recognize in Pius the Ninth the legitimate Successor of St. Peter in the Supremacy of the Church.

The Prince of the Apostles established his See at Rome, and died in that city. The testimony of writers of the first century,