RENAISSANCE ROME

Avignon Papacy (1305-1378)

Great Schism (1378-1414)
   after return from Avignon, French elect rival Pope

Conciliarism theory that highest authority in Church is a
   Council of Bishops proposed to end Schism
   threat to idea of papal monarchy

1409 Council of Pisa: elects new Pope -- Avignon & Rome refuse to resign;
   three papal lines (Rome, Avignon, Pisa)

1414 Council of Constance:
   all three Popes deposed; 1417 elects Martin V
POPES: The return to Rome

Martin V Colonna, Roman noble
1420 enters Rome as first Pope after Schism
appoints Cosimo di Medici (Florentine) as papal banker

Eugenius IV
1434 Roman uprising; takes refuge in Florence
suppresses Roman nobility in Latium

Council of Ferrara & Florence 1438-9;
Eastern (Greek) Emperor John Palaeologus
& Orthodox Patriarch seek aid against Turks
Renaissance Papacy during late 15th and early 16th C.

NICHOLAS V 1447-55

1st humanist Pope: studied Greek in Florence

Founder of Vatican Library: manuscript collector; has scribes copy all known Latin & Greek manuscripts

building program for Rome

refortification of Castel Sant'Angelo
Castel Sant’Angelo (Tomb of Hadrian) refortified by Nicholas V
Pope Pius II 1458-1464

Aeneas Sylvius Piccolomini, noble of Siena, humanist, conciliarist; wrote memoir of his life.

Papal monarchy re-asserted:

1460 *Execrabilis* – papal bull declaring conciliarism a heresy

reply to the contradiction of having been a conciliartist:

“Forget Aeneas, follow Pius.”

forbidden to appeal to a council over a Pope.
Pinturichio frescoes in Piccolomini Library Siena
Pius II reaches Ancona in 1464 to launch a Crusade against Ottoman Turks

Pinturichio

Siena Cathedral
Sixtus IV (1471-1480) Della Rovere
(uncle of later Pope Julius II)

builds Sistine Chapel in Vatican Palace;
nepotism (promotes relatives, from “nephew”)

1475 Ponte Sisto (built for Jubilee)
Sistine Chapel – constructed by Sixtus IV, Della Rovere
Sixtus IV (1471-1484)
and his nephews
Melozzo da Forli
Vatican
Sixtus IV and his nephews

Clerics:
  Center:
  Cardinal Giuliano della Rovere, later Julius II
  Behind Pope: Raffaele Riario – builder of Cancelleria

Lay nephews:
  Girolamo Riario: Lord of Imola and Forli
    husband of Caterina Sforza
    assasinated 1488 by agents of Lorenzo dei Medici
    as revenge for 1478 Pazzi Conspiracy
  Giovanni della Rovere

Librarian Platina (kneeling)
Cancelleria begun 1489
Ponte Sisto

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Christ handing Peter the Keys of the Kingdom  Perugino
Sistine Chapel Wall  1481
Innocent VIII (1480-1492)

financial corruption, indulgence sales
first Pope to publicly recognize his (many) children

marriage of his illegitimate son to daughter of Lorenzo de’ Medici

Lorenzo’s son Giovanni made Cardinal at age 13 (later Leo X)
Alexander VI Borgia (1492-1503) Spaniard

son Cesare Borgia (Duke Valentino)
    head of papal armies
    = Machiavelli's hero: man of action, hope to unify Italy

daughter Lucrezia Borgia
    married in ceremony in Vatican
    to Duke of Este (Ferrara)

mistress Giulietta Farnese:
    her brother made Cardinal, later Paul III
Julius II della Rovere (1503-1513)

"warrior Pope," personally directs Papal troops in battle conquest of Bologna; expands boundaries of Papal States goal of driving the French out of Italy

Erasmus' pacifistic treatise: *Julius Exclusus* (from Heaven)
Frontispiece to Erasmus’ Julius Exclusis (Julius Excluded from Heaven by St. Peter)
Raphael
Julius II
della Rovere
Raphael

The Sistine Madonna with Pope Julius II
Raphael

Leo X Medici
son of Lorenzo

Pope 1513-1521

“God has given us the Papacy, now let us enjoy it.”
Medici coat of arms (red balls on gold background)

Medici Pope Leo X with the keys of St. Peter
Old St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome

built by Constantine around 320
The impressive Basilica of Constantine, or, the Old St. Peter’s as it looked before it was demolished in 1506. It has a vague resemblance to St. Paul’s Outside the Walls. On the left is the obelisk which was removed in 1586 and placed in St. Peter’s Square. The round structures behind the obelisk are the imperial mausoleums where the emperor Honorius and the Empress Maria, daughter of Stilicho were buried in 425. The sacristy of the new basilica stands over that site today.