

The Death of Pope Pius XII

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In Memoriam

The death of Pope Pius XII has deprived the Catholic Church and the entire world of a holy, wise, and courageous leader. For almost two decades the voice of the former diplomat and Apostolic Nuncio, Eugenio Pacelli, called upon the governments of the world to seek peace through obedience to God's law.

Only the Communist and Communist-dominated governments have failed to acknowledge the contribution to establish peace through justice and charity which the late Holy Father made by his unceasing prayers and exhortations to all mankind.


Pius XII was a modern pope in every good sense of the word. He was the first pope to use a typewriter, the first to use the telephone in the ordinary conduct of his business, the first to appear on television. He appreciated the power of the press and encouraged the growth of Catholic journalism.

Upon receipt of the first issue of THE CATHOLIC LAWYER His Holiness conveyed his thanks to the St. Thomas More Institute for Legal Research which publishes THE CATHOLIC LAWYER and imparted to the members his Apostolic Benediction.

On the occasion of the meeting in Rome in August 1957 of a group of members of the American Bar Association, Pope Pius XII granted an audience to the Editor of THE CATHOLIC LAWYER and several of his associates in order to accept from them a specially bound edition of the first two volumes of THE CATHOLIC LAWYER. His Holiness expressed his appreciation of the importance of the periodical and his admiration for its format. After encouraging the members of the Institute to continue their efforts, he renewed his Apostolic Benediction.

No one who has had the privilege of an audience with Pope Pius XII can ever forget the aura of serene peace, holiness, charity, and steadfast devotion to duty which surrounded the Holy Father. Many millions more who knew him only through the media of the press, moving pictures, television and radio, have, nevertheless, experienced the inspiration of his singular personality.

The editors and publishers of THE CATHOLIC LAWYER mourn the loss of a good friend. With a heavy heart they commend to the prayers of their readers the soul of His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

“ GOD, Who in Thine ineffable providence didst will that Thy servant Pius should be numbered among the high priests, grant, we beseech Thee, that he who on earth held the place of Thine only-begotten Son may be joined forevermore to the fellowship of Thy holy pontiffs.”



Pope Pius XII, Reverend Joseph T. Tinnelly, C.M., Editor of the THE CATHOLIC LAWYER and Dr. Harold F. McNiece, Consultant, St. Thomas More Institute for Legal Research, on the occasion of the presentation of the specially-bound volumes of THE CATHOLIC LAWYER, August 16, 1957.