

Presentation of the series

History of the Vatican Apostolic Library

It is a series of seven volumes that illustrates the history of the Vatican Apostolic Library from the mid-fifteenth century to the present, published every two years.

The chosen expression is not that of pure scholarship and specialized language, but that of the synthesis and high distribution, which allows to approach a wide circle of readers, composed not only by specialists but also by well-read people and interested in cultural issues. One can retrace the Vatican Library's life through the centuries following the main landmarks of this Institution, that has had, and still has, an important and significant place in the history of culture and studies.

For this reason, the volumes point to a clear readability, without of course falling short of full scientific accuracy of the information provided. For this purpose much space has been given to the illustrations, which offer a visual comment appropriate to the text. Moreover, short complements on particular topics are included in enclosed spaces to enrich the curiosity of the reader.

The authors invited to collaborate are both internal scholars of the Library and external scholars, very qualified on the respective topics. The series' scientific committee includes staff of the Vatican Library, the Prefect Msgr. Cesare Pasini, the Vice Prefect Dr. Ambrogio M. Piazzoni, the Director of the Department of Manuscripts dr. Paolo Vian, plus the editors of the individual volumes.

Four volumes have been published to date:

1. Le origini della Biblioteca Vaticana tra Umanesimo e Rinascimento (1447-1534), a cura di A. Manfredi, pp. 532 (**2010**). [*The origins of the Vatican Library between Humanism and the Renaissance (1447-1534)*]
2. La Biblioteca Vaticana tra Riforma cattolica, crescita delle collezioni e nuovo edificio (1535-1590), a cura di M. Ceresa, pp. 454 (**2012**). [*The Vatican Library through Catholic Reformation, growth of collections and new building (1535-1590)*]
3. La Vaticana nel Seicento (1590-1700): una biblioteca di biblioteche, a cura di C. Montuschi, pp. 912 (**2014**). [*The Vaticana in the XVII century (1590-1700): a library of libraries*]
4. La Biblioteca Apostolica e le Arti nel secolo dei lumi (1700-1797), a cura di B. Jatta (**2017**).

The volumes in preparation are (temporary titles):

5. Dall'età napoleonica a Pio IX (1797-1878), a cura di A. Rita (**2018**). [*From the Napoleonic era to Pious IX (1797-1878)*]
6. Da Leone XIII a Pio XI (1878-1939), a cura di P. Vian (**2020**). [*From Leo XIII to Pius XI (1878-1939)*]
7. Da Pio XII sino ai nostri giorni (1939-), a cura di C. Pasini e A. M. Piazzoni (**2022**). [*From Pius XII to nowadays (1939-)*]