

Città del Vaticano



Founded in 1929 by a contract with the Italian Government, the Vatican is the smallest state in the world. Besides 440.000 square meters within the walls, some buildings in Rome also have extraterritorial status, i.e.: St. Paul's Outside the Walls, S. Maria Maggiore, Cancelleria on Corso Vittorio Emanuele, Castel Sant' Angelo and others.

Elected for life-time the pope is not only the head of Vatican, he also is the head of the Catholic Church and the Bishop of Rome. The Vatican state law gives him full legal, executive and judicial powers, activated by a committee of cardinals appointed by him every five years.

The Vatican has its own newspaper and stamps and it also mints its own coins. The Radio Station is broadcasting world-wide in several languages.



A. The Carriage Museum

Carriages, Cars, and Sedan Chairs which have been used by a number of popes. Also includes Vatican City's railway engine.



B. Border of Leonine City

The first walls surrounding the basilica and the little village which has sprung up nearby. Built in the 9th century by Leo IV (847-855).



C. Basilica di San Pietro

St. Peter crucified in 64 A.D. was buried among some Christian martyrs in the 'ager vaticanus'. Recognizing Christianity with the Edict of Milan, the Emperor Constantine started building a large church in the 4th century. The tomb of St. Peter was placed in the center.

Julius II (1503-1513) pulled down Constantine's basilica and built the new St. Peter's, planned and constructed by Michelangelo. In the mid-16th century, the central part of St. Peter's was covered with a beautiful vaulted dome by Giacomo della Porta.

Maderno added two bays in the early 17th century, later on Bernini completed the Piazza San Pietro, giving this place today's appearance.



D. Audience Hall

Built between 1966 and 1971. With 6.000 seats and another standing capacity for 6.000, this hall is one of the most interesting buildings in modern Rome.



E. Palace of Sixtus

Built under Sixtus V (1485-90). This is the palace where the present pope lives. On Sunday noon he stands at the window, blessing the crowd at St. Peter's Square



F. The Pinacoteca

Founded by Pius XI (1922-39) this Picture Gallery was completed in 1931, housing a marvellous collection of paintings.

G. Museum of Ethnology

Artefacts from missions outside Europe and private donations. Also pieces from non-Catholic places and confessions, including Buddhist statues and Islamic objects.

H. Museo Pio Clementino

With the most important collections of Greek and Roman pieces. By Clement XIV (1769-74) and Pius VI (1775-90)

J. Stairways of Bramante

Designed for Julius II and named by his architect. This stairs have been built as a connection between the Palace of Innocent VIII and the city of Rome.

K. Biblioteca Apostolica

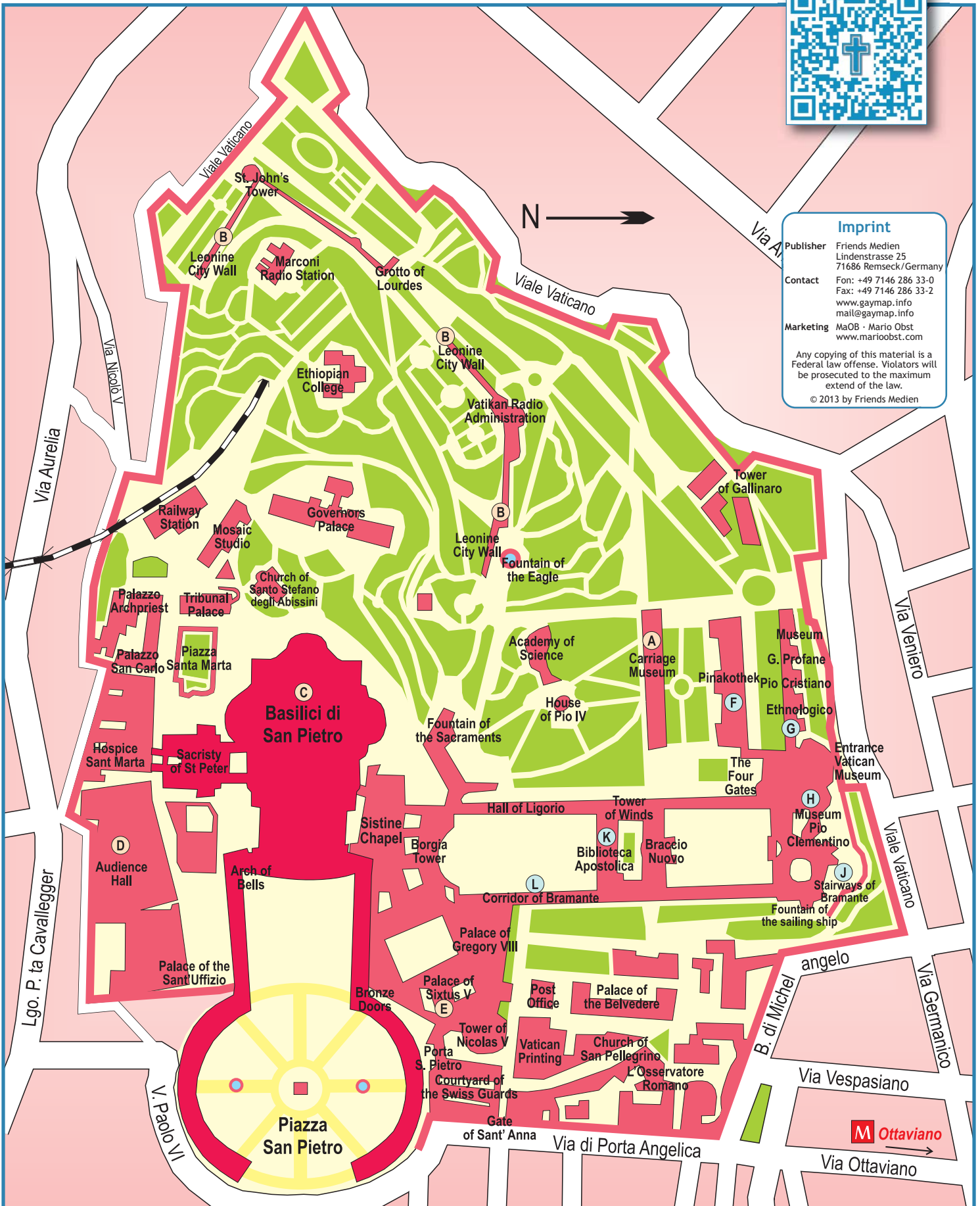
Founded in 1451 and permanently enlarged thereafter. Sixtus V built the wing to the Belvedere Courtyard including the large reading hall.

With 50.000 manuscripts, 7.000 incunabula, thousands of prints and more than one million books it is one of the most significant libraries in the world.

L. The Corridors

Julius II and his architect Donato Bramante had the idea to connect the buildings in the North of St. Peter's, adding two longitudinal wings around a magnificent courtyard.

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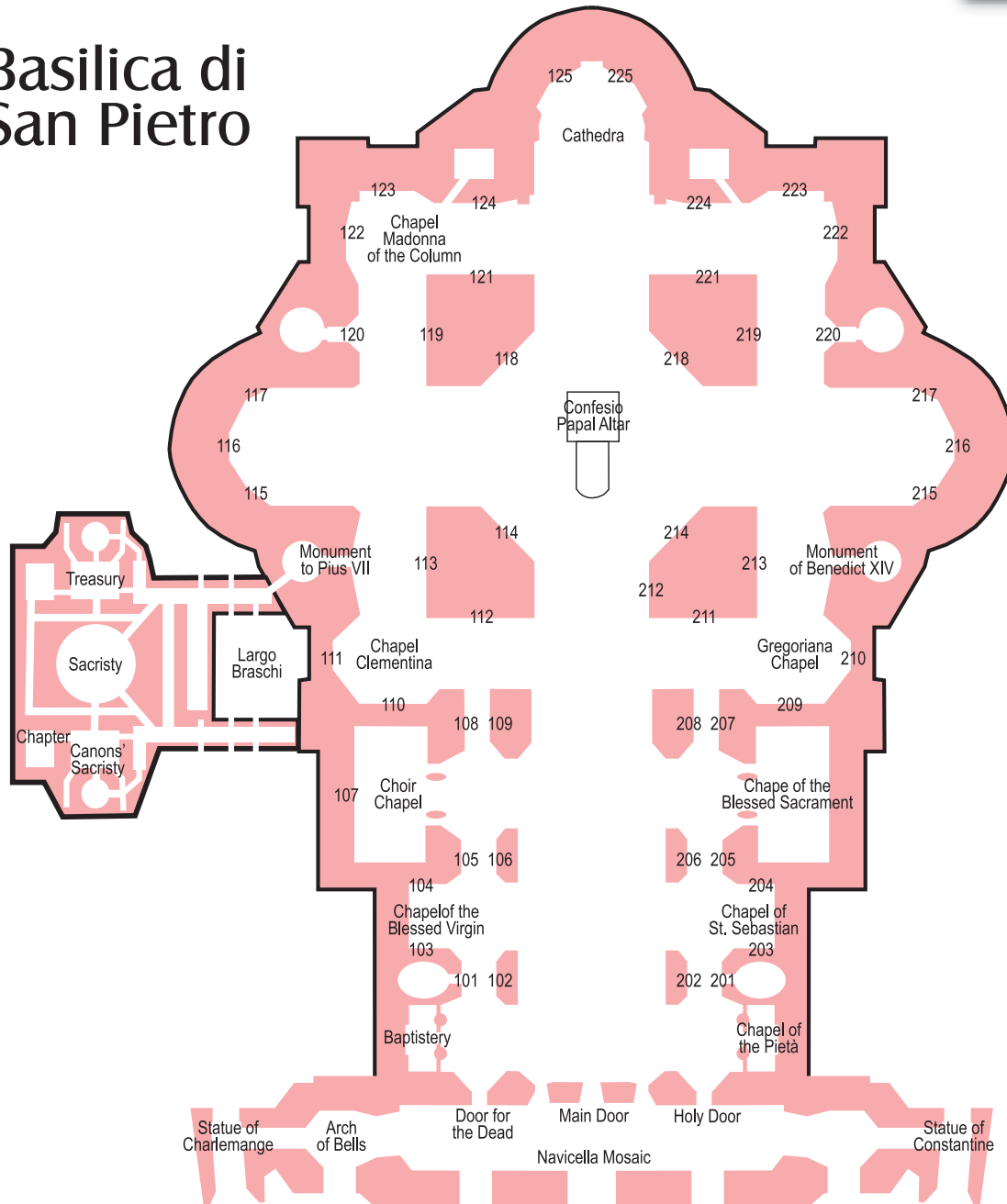
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Basilica di San Pietro



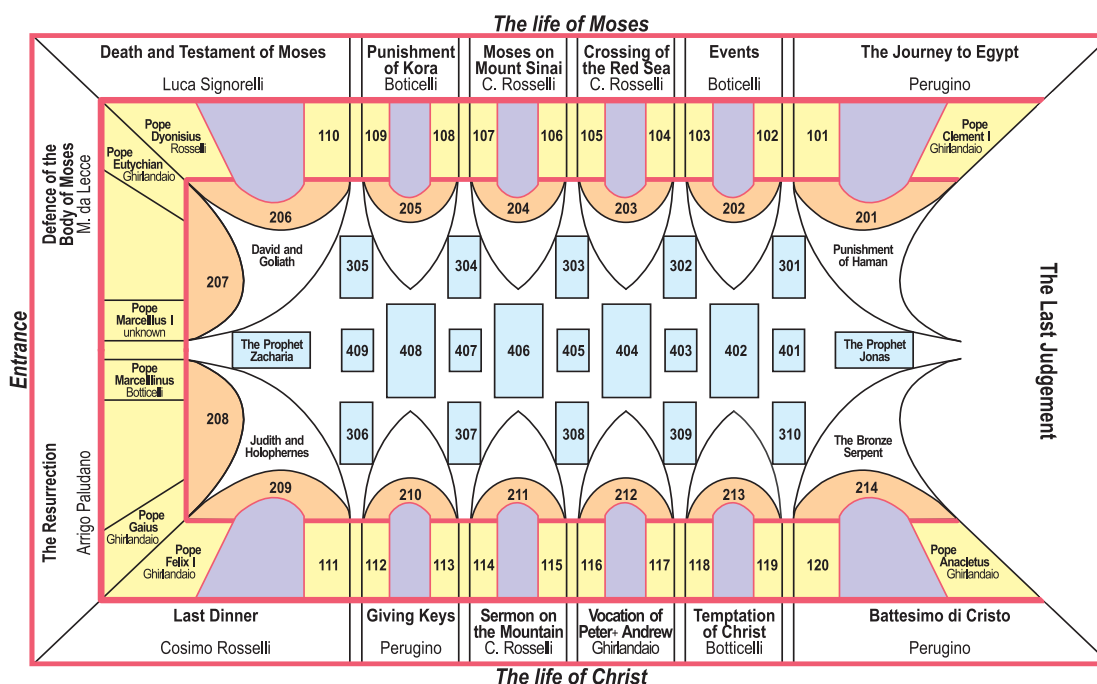
- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 101 Monument of M. Clementina Sobiesky | 114 Statue of St. Andrew | 201 Monument of Leo XII | 214 Statue of St. Longinus |
| 102 Stuart Monument | 115 Altar of St. Peter's Crucifixion | 202 Monument of Christina of Sweden | 215 Altar of St. Wenceslas |
| 103 Monument of Benedict IV | 116 Altar of St. Joseph | 203 Monument of Pius XI | 216 Altar of St. Processo |
| 104 Monument of John XXIII | 117 Altar of St. Thomas | 204 Monument of Pius XII | 217 Altar of St. Erasmus |
| 105 Monument of St. Pius X | 118 Statue of St. Veronica | 205 Monument of Innocent XII | 218 Statue of St. Helen |
| 106 Monument of Innocent VIII | 119 Altar of the Sacred Heart | 206 Monument of Countess Mathilda | 219 Altar of the Navicella |
| 107 Immaculate Virgin Mary | 120 Monument of Alexander VII | 207 Monument of Gregory XIII | 220 Monument of Clement X |
| 108 Monument of Leone XI | 121 Altar of St. Peter | 208 Monument of Gregory XIV | 221 Altar of St. Peter with Tabitha |
| 109 Monument of Innocent XI | 122 Altar Madonna the Column | 209 Monument of Gregory XVI | 222 Altar of St. Michael the Archangel |
| 110 Monument of Pius VII | 123 Altar of St. Leo the Great | 210 Altar of the Madonna del Soccorso | 223 Altar of St. Petronilla |
| 111 Altar of St. Gregory | 124 Monument of Alexander VIII | 211 Altar of St. Jerome | 224 Monument of Clement X |
| 112 Altar of the Transfiguration | 125 Monument of Paul III | 212 Statue of St. Peter | 225 Monument of Urban VIII |
| 113 Bugia altar | | 213 Altar of St. Basilio | |

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Named after Sixtus IV della Rovere (1471-84) as a new hall for papal court assemblies. Well known Florentine artists were asked to do the inside paintings. The completion of the chapel's decoration was made by Giuliano della Rovere, nephew of Sixtus IV and later pope Julius II. Michelangelo Buonarroti was the one to fresco the vault (1508-1512), which is the most important painting cycle in the world. Twenty years later Michelangelo also did the today's famous painting of 'The Last Judgement'.

The Sistine Chapel Paintings



- 101 Pope Evaristus Botticelli
- 102 Pope Sixtus I unknown
- 103 Pope Iginus Ghirlandaio
- 104 Pope Anicetus F Diamante
- 105 Pope Eleutherius F Diamante
- 106 Pope Zephyrinus F Diamante
- 107 Pope Urban I F Diamante
- 108 Pope Anterus F Diamante
- 109 Pope Cornelius Botticelli
- 110 Pope Stephen I Botticelli

- 111 Pope Sixtus II Botticelli
- 112 Pope Lucius I Botticelli
- 113 Pope Fabian unknown
- 114 Pope Pontian unknown
- 115 Pope Callistus Cosimo Rosselli
- 116 Pope Victor Ghirlandaio
- 117 Pope Soter Ghirlandaio
- 118 Pope Pius I Botticelli
- 119 Pope Telesphorus F Diamante
- 120 Pope Alexander I F Diamante

Christ's ancestors

- 201 Amminadab
- 202 Jesse, David and Solomon
- 203 Rehoboam and Abijah
- 204 Uzziah, Jotham and Ahaz
- 205 Zerubbabel, Abiud and Eliakim
- 206 Achim and Eliud
- 207 Jacob

- 208 Eleazer and Matthan
- 209 Azor and Zadok
- 210 Josiah, Jechoniah and Shealtiel
- 211 Hezekiah, Mansseh and Amon
- 212 Asa, Jehoshaphat and Joram
- 213 Solomon, Boaz and Obed
- 214 Nahshon

The Vault

- 301 The Prophet Jeremiah
- 302 The Persian Sibyl
- 303 The Prophet Ezekiel
- 304 The Erythrean Sibyl
- 305 The Prophet Joel
- 306 The Delphic Sibyl
- 307 The Prophet Isaiah
- 308 The Cumaen Sibyl
- 309 The Prophet Daniel
- 310 The Lybian Sibyl

- 401 Separation of Light from Darkness
- 402 Creation of the Heavenly Bodies
- 403 Separation of Land and Water
- 404 Creation of Adam
- 405 Creation of Eve
- 406 Fall of Man
- 407 Noah's Sacrifice
- 408 The Flood
- 409 Drunkenness of Noah