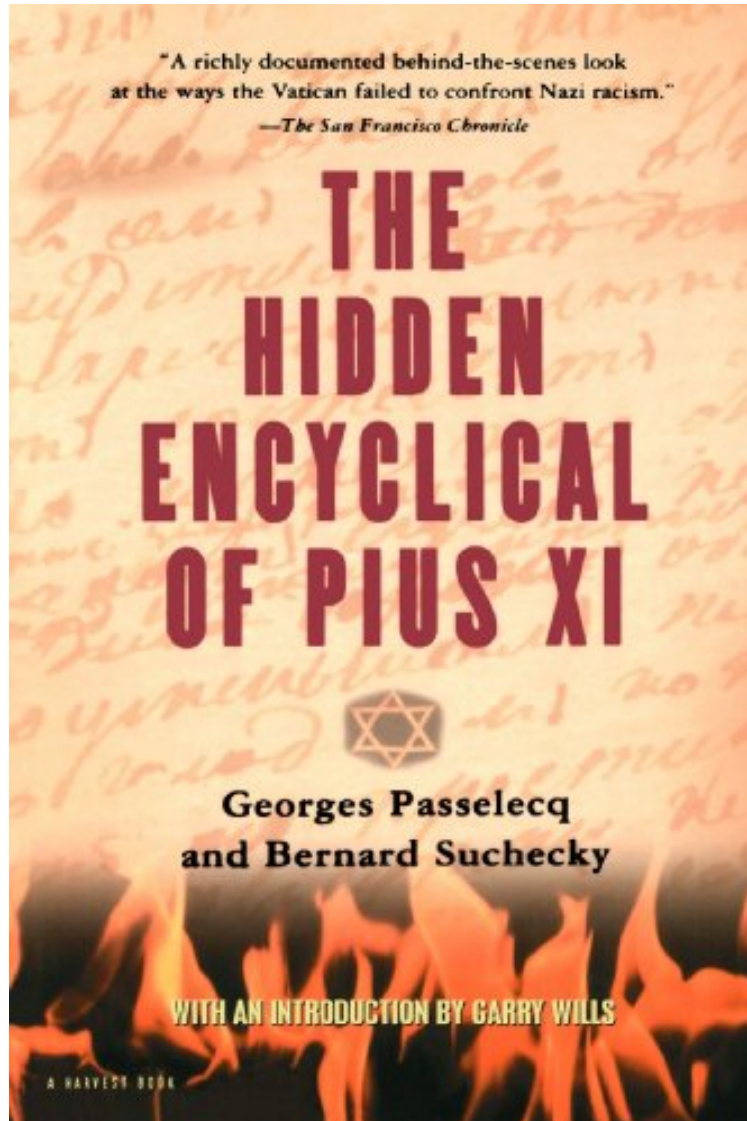


[Ebook free] The Hidden Encyclical of Pius XI

## The Hidden Encyclical of Pius XI

*Georges Passelecq, Bernard Suchecky*  
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**Georges Passelecq, Bernard Suchecky : The Hidden Encyclical of Pius XI** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hidden Encyclical of Pius XI:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent value for money By Anthony Bashford A fascinating read. Excellent value for money. Fast shipping and wonderful customer service. Thank you! 29 of 34 people found the following review helpful. Misleading By Amanda McCoy This is an interesting tale of an encyclical that never saw the light of day, especially because it was an encyclical against racism clearly aimed at Hitler. But the authors misintepret

the document's import. They act as if this draft encyclical would have been the first time the Church denounced the Third Reich's anti-Semitism. In fact, Pius XI had solemnly condemned it in the encyclical *Mit Brennender Sorge* (1937), written in German and read from the pulpit of every German church. He also denounced it in several addresses to the College of Cardinals. They also miss the fact that Pius XII incorporated large chunks of this encyclical into the first encyclical he published after being elected pope in 1939. As Pierre Blet shows in his fine work on the Vatican archives, Pius XII continued to hammer home the Church's opposition to anti-Semitism in many cables to papal ambassadors, authorizing them to save Jewish lives through Vatican passports, false baptismal certificates, and the granting of sanctuary in church buildings. The "hidden encyclical" only confirms the public words and actions of Popes Pius XI and XII against racism, especially in its Nazi guise. Oddly, however, the authors twist this evidence into something suggesting just the opposite.<sup>2</sup> of 8 people found the following review helpful. Arrogant and Overly-PresentedBy A CustomerThe book has some interesting threads from an historical point of view however after having read through the "super sleuth" story in the lead half of the book, I was somewhat disappointed by the text of the letter itself. It was too academic in my mind and less papal. But back to the detective work - ultimately I found the book to be overly ambitious (the subject doesn't warrant it) and somewhat arrogant as if the encyclical itself is above the Church and must be taken to be heavenly. In the end the work did not receive papal blessing nor was it even published at the appropriate time to evoke the appropriate ecclesial mood amidst a public rally

Drafted by American Jesuit Father John LaFarge and buried in the Vatican's archives since 1938, this engrossing narrative sheds new light on the Church's failure in the 1930s to alert the world to the nature of fascism and its inherent racism and anti-Semitism. Introduction by Garry Wills. Translated by Stephen Rendall.

.com The Hidden Encyclical of Pius XI by Georges Passelecq and Bernard Suhecky is about "a bungled effort at compassion"--one of the most important Catholic documents of the 20th century, which was intended to denounce Hitler's anti-Semitism but was never completed. The reasons for this document's commission and suppression, as described by Passelecq and Suhecky, compose a scandalous indictment of Italian church-and-state relations. When Pius XI accepted a stark separation of church and state in the 1930s, he effectively undermined Catholic political groups, an act which eased the rise of European dictators and led to World War II. The Hidden Encyclical is suitably critical of Pius without lapsing into Vatican bashing. It's a sober, rueful, and straightforward story about the tragic cost of exalting Truth over love. --Michael Joseph GrossFrom Library JournalIn June 1938, three Jesuit priests drafted a work that might or might not have changed European history. *Humani Generis Unitas* (The Unity of the Human Race) was Pope Pius XI's encyclical to address the encroaching modernity of Fascist Italy and the rising tide of national racism. Unfortunately, Pius's death the next year ended whatever life this manuscript had. Authors Passelecq, a monk, and Suhecky, a historian and film writer, linger too long over the monumental efforts to uncover this manuscript. Much better are their analyses of Catholicism's self-interest inherent in the draft, the "administrative inertia" that squelched its publication, and the painful realization that racism, at least for this encyclical, did not necessarily include anti-Semitism. Recommended for collections seeking depth in studies on anti-Semitism and 20th-century Catholicism.- Sandra Collins, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Lib.Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Kirkus sCertain to reopen the debate on the political, diplomatic, and, most importantly, moral failure of the Catholic Church in the face of fascism and the Holocaust. Historians have long known that Pius XI--who had sought accommodation with Mussolini's regime in 1929 but later became convinced that diplomatic methods were futile with both Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy--commissioned an encyclical in June 1938 that was to have been a detailed condemnation of fascism, racism, and anti-Semitism. But Pius XI died in early 1939. His successor was Eugenio Pacelli, the late pope's secretary of state and former papal nuncio in Nazi Germany, who took the name Pius XII. Pacelli was a fanatical anti-communist, convinced that Europe would fare better under Nazi domination than Soviet hegemony. Pius XII never spoke out publicly against Nazi atrocities, not even when the Jews of Rome were rounded up by the SS. The encyclical (titled "The Unity of the Human Race") disappeared into the Vatican archives, never to be published. For decades, the Vatican even denied its existence, until it was discovered by a Jesuit seminarian in the late 1960s. Passelecq (a Belgian monk and former member of the anti-fascist Resistance) and historian Suhecky accurately recreate the historical context of the document and trace its fate. Of immense value to historians is the text (over 100 pages) of the encyclical, published in its entirety for the first time in English. It is an extraordinary work, combining a traditional and conservative defense of the family and the faith, along with a detailed critique of modernism and the atomization of contemporary civilization. It insists that the plurality of human ideas and beliefs does not deny an unassailable truth--the unity of the human race. Garry Wills contributes a foreword to this work, which, at a time when the Catholic Church is considering the canonization of Pius XII, may force Catholics and others to reassess his moral failure in a time of crisis. -- Copyright 1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.