

Study for the Month of July 2013

## ***The Papacy Series-Part VI***

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### **Updates on the “Healing of the Wound of the Beast**

***I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.  
Revelation 13: 3, N.K.J.V.***

#### **Brief Historical Background:**

Source: *Facts of Faith*, pp. 57-60 by Christian Edwardson, Southern Publishing Association, Nashville, TN, 1943:

#### **“CLOSE OF THE 1260 YEARS**

“Having now seen that the 1260 years of papal supremacy began in 538 A.D., it is an easy matter to find their close. Adding the 1260 years to 538 brings us to the year 1798. And if we have given the right application to this prophecy, history must record and event in 1798 that would appear like a death stroke to the Papacy. Turning to history we find such an event recorded:

“The official Swedish newspaper, *Stockholms Posttidning*, for March 19, 1798, has the following news item:

‘Rome, the 21<sup>st</sup> of February [1798], Pope Pius VI, has occupied the papal chair for all of twenty-eight years, but the 15<sup>th</sup> inst. his government on the Papal States was abolished, and five days later, guarded by 100 French soldiers, he was taken away from his palace and his capital.

“His . . . property was sold by the French, and among it were seven hundred head of cattle, one hundred fifty horses, and eight hundred cords of wood . . .

“Poor Pius! He must have felt very sad as he left Rome to go into captivity. When he departed his tear-filled eyes were turned heaven-ward.’

“Rev. E. B. Elliot, A.M. , says of these events:

‘In the years 1796, 1797, French dominion being established by Bonparte’s victories in Northern Italy, . . . the French [armies] urged their march onward to the Papal Capital. . . . The aged Pope himself, now left mere nominal master of some few remaining shreds of the Patrimony of Peter, experienced soon after *in person*, the bitterness of the prevailing anti-papal spirit . . .

“On pretence of an insult to the French Ambassador there, a French corps d’armee under Berthier, having in February, 1798, crossed the Appenines from Ancona, and entered Rome, the tricolor flag was displayed from the Capitol, amidst the shout of the populace, the Pope’s temporal reign declared at an end, and the Roman Republic proclaimed, in strict alliance fraternization with the French. Then, in the Sistine Chapel of the Vatican, the ante-hall to which has a fresco painted by Papal order commemorative of the *Protestant massacre on St. Barthlomew’s day* (might not the scene have served as a memento of God’s retributive justice?), there, while seated on his throne, and receiving the gratulations of his cardinals and on the anniversary of his

election to the Popedom, he was arrested by the French military, the ring with his marriage with the Church Catholic torn from his finger, his palace rifled, and he himself carried prisoner into France, only to die there in exile shortly after.’ –*‘Horae Apolypticae,’ Rev. E. B. Elliott, A.M., Vol. III, pp. 400, 401, London: 1862.*

“Arthur R. Pennington, M.A., F.R. Hist. Soc., says of this event:

‘One day the Pope was sitting on his throne in a chapel of the Vatican surrounded by his cardinals who has assembled for the purpose of offering him their congratulations on his elevation to his high dignity. On a sudden, the shouts of an angry multitude penetrated to the conclave, intermingled with the *stroke* of axes and hammers on the doors. Very soon a band of soldiers burst into the hall, who tore away from his finger his pontifical ring, and hurried him off, a prisoner, through a hall, the walls of which were adorned with a fresco, representing the armed satellites of the Papacy, on St. Bartholomew’s day, as bathing their swords in the blood of unoffending women and helpless children. Thus it might seem as if he were to be reminded that the same God who visits iniquities of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation, had made him the victim of His retributive justice for a deed of atrocity which had long been crying aloud to Him for vengeance.’ –*‘Epochs of the Papacy,’ pp. 449, 450. London: 1881.*

“Rev. Joseph Rickaby, an English Jesuit writes:

‘When, in 1797, Pope Pius VI fell grievously ill, Napoleon gave orders that in the event of his death [Pope Pius VI] no successor should be elected to his office, and that the Papacy should be discontinued.

“But the Pope recovered. The peace was soon broken; Berthier entered Rome on the 10<sup>th</sup> February, 1798, and proclaimed a republic. The aged Pontiff refused to violate his oath by recognizing it, and was hurried from prison to prison in France. . . . No wonder that half of Europe thought that Napoleon’s veto would be obeyed, and that with the Pope the Papacy was dead.’ –*‘The Modern Papacy,’ p. 1. London: Catholic Truth Society.*

“Reverend George Trevor, Canon of York, wrote of this eventful year:

‘The object of the French Directory was the destruction of the *pontifical government, as the irreconcilable enemy of the republic* . . . The aged pope was summoned to surrender the temporal government; on his refusal, he was dragged from the altar. . . . His rings were torn from his fingers, and finally, after declaring the temporal power abolished, the victors carried the pope prisoner into Tuscany, whence he never returned (1798).

“The *Papal States*, converted into the *Roman Republic*, were declared to be in perpetual alliance with France, but the French general was the real master of Rome . . . . The territorial possessions of the clergy and the monks were declared national property, and their former owners cast into prison. The Papacy was extinct not a vestige of its existence remained; and among all the Roman Catholic powers not a finger was stirred in its defence. The Eternal City had no longer prince or pontiff; its bishop was a dying captive in foreign lands; and the decree was already announced that no successor would be allowed in his place.’ –*‘Rome: From the Fall of the Western Empire,’ pp. 439, 440. London: 1868.*

“As the English secular writer, John Adolphus, says of 1798:

‘*The downfall of the papal government*, by whatever means effected; excites perhaps less sympathy than that of any other in Europe; the errors, the oppressions, *the tyranny of Rome over all the Christian world*, were remembered with bitterness; many rejoiced, through religious antipathy, in *the overthrow of a church which they considered idolatrous*, though attended with the immediate triumph of infidelity; and many saw in these events the accomplishment of prophecies, and the exhibition of signs

promised in the most mystical parts of the Holy Scriptures.’—“*History of France from 1790-1802, Vol. II, p. 379, London: 1803.*

“God’s prophetic clock had set the year 1798 as the end of the papal supremacy, and when that hour struck, the mighty ruler on the Tiber, before whose anathemas the kings and emperors of Europe had so long trembled, went into ‘captivity’ (Revelation 13: 10), and his government in the Papal States was abolished. Thus the historical events fit exactly into the mold of prophecy, and establish the fact that ‘we have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn.’ 2 Peter 1: 19. But prophecy foretells that this ‘deadly wound’ would be healed, and that the world once more, for a brief moment, would follow the papal power. (Rev. 13: 3.) In the following chapter we shall consider the other specifications of this remarkable prophecy.” – p. 60.

Source: Yahoo!News (Reuters, 7/17/2013) reports from Paris/Geneva (Reuters, Tom Heghan and Tom Miles reporting) [emphasis mine]:

### **“Catholics, Lutherans Jointly Mark Reformation Anniversary”**

“Senior Roman Catholic and Lutheran officials announced Monday they would mark the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation in 2017 as a shared event rather than highlight the clash that split Western Christianity.

“The Vatican and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) presented a report in Geneva admitting both were guilty of harming Christian unity in the past and describing a growing consensus between the churches in recent decades.

“The 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Martin Luther’s 95 Theses, the doctrinal challenges that launched the Protestant Reformation, will be the first centenary celebration in the age of ecumenism, globalization and the secularization of Western societies.

“The awareness is dawning on Lutherans and Catholics that the struggle of the 16<sup>th</sup> century is over,’ the report said. ‘The reasons for mutually condemning each other’s faith have fallen by the wayside.’ They now agree belief in Jesus unites them despite lingering differences, it said, and inspires them to cooperate more closely to proclaim the Gospel in increasingly pluralistic societies.

“This is an important step in the healing process which we all need and we all praying for, LWF General Secretary Martin Junge said at the report’s presentation in Geneva.

‘The division of the church is something we cannot celebrate but we can see what is positive and try to find ways towards the future together,’ said Cardinal Kurt Koch, head of the Vatican’s department to promote Christian unity.’

#### **“SEEKING COMMON GROUND**

“Roman Catholicism, the world’s largest church, has about 1.2 billion members or just about over half of all Christians. There are about 75 million Lutherans in LWF member churches and other Lutheran groups around the world.

“Catholics and Lutherans began seeking theological common ground after the 1962-1965 Second Vatican Council, which opened the Roman church to better relations with other churches, and have ironed out many of their differences over the decades.

“They took a major step forward in 1999 by agreeing a common view on justification, the doctrine at the core of their 16<sup>th</sup> century dispute. At issue was whether Christians attained eternal salvation by faith alone or also by doing works.

“The Lutheran side confessed its shame and regret over ‘the vicious and degrading statements that Martin Luther made against the Jews and rejected other ‘darker sides of Luther’ including his support for the persecution of the Anabaptists.

“The report said Christians in developing countries now an important region for both churches, could not identify with 500-year old European rows. Secularization in Western societies in recent decades mean *many old feuds were now forgotten there*.

“The rise of Pentecostal and charismatic movements over the past century “have put forward new emphases that have made many of the old confessional controversies seem obsolete,’ it added.

“STILL APART ON SOME ISSUES.

“The report said Luther’s 95 Theses were meant to begin a debate about practices such as selling indulgences and were not intended to found a new church. Both sides mishandled the crisis that followed, leading to the final split.

“*The disputes over the authority of the Bible*, which Lutherans stress more than Catholics, *have narrowed so much that lingering differences would no longer justify maintaining their split*, the report said. It spoke of the two churches sharing ‘unity in reconciled diversity’ over these issues.

“But while ecumenical dialogue has developed new common understandings on some divisive points, other doctrines—such as the office of the Catholic pope or the nature of the ordained clergy—still remains significantly far apart.

“The LWF said it wants to talk with *Anglicans, Mennonite, Reformed, Orthodox and Pentecostal churches* about how they might also participate in the 2017 commemoration.” (editing by Michael Roddy).” – <http://news.yahoo.com/catholics-lutherans-jointly>

The following lines from the foregoing are highlighted by repetition here as they clearly reveal that the 1962-1968 Second Vatican Council marked a major turning point in still fulfilling prophecy of Revelation 13 that Protestants would unite with the Papacy as a major part of the healing of its deadly wound. This “wound” took place when Pope Pius VI was captured by Napoleon’s French Republican army in 1798 and taken as prisoner to France where he died the next year.

The full unification of the Protestant churches, now commonly referred to as the Christian mainstream with the Papacy, still lies in the very near future as current events show. To the surprise of skeptics and the vast majority of Christians, it will be the Protestants of America who will lead the way in having the counterfeit sabbath enacted and enforced as the National Sunday Law, beginning in America, which will then be quickly adapted throughout the world thereafter.

1. “The 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation will be *a shared event* rather than highlight the clash that split Western Christianity.”
2. Vatican and Lutherans “admit that *both were guilty of harming Christian unity in the past* and describing *a growing consensus between the churches in recent decades*.”
3. Lutherans and Catholics agree “*that the struggle of the 16<sup>th</sup> century is over*.”
4. The reasons for mutually condemning each other’s faith have “*fallen by the wayside*.”
5. *They now agree belief in Jesus unites them despite lingering differences*, it said, and inspires them *to cooperate more closely to proclaim the Gospel* in increasingly pluralistic societies.

6. *"This is an important step in the healing process."*
  7. *They will "try to find ways towards the future together,"* said Cardinal Kurt Koch, head of the Vatican's department to promote Christian unity.'
- NOTE: Roman Catholicism, the world's largest church, has about 1.2 billion members or just about over half of all Christians
8. *"Catholics and Lutherans began seeking theological common ground after the 1962-1965 Second Vatican Council."*
  9. *"They took a major step forward in 1999 by agreeing on a common view on justification, the doctrine at the core of their 16<sup>th</sup> century dispute. At issue was whether Christians attained eternal salvation by faith alone or also by doing works.*
  10. *"The Lutheran side confessed its shame and regret over 'the vicious and degrading statements that Martin Luther made against the Jews and rejected other 'darker sides of Luther' including his support for the persecution of the Anabaptists. [What about the Papacy's acts in perpetrating mankind's bloodiest and darkest period in the name of religion for over a century called the Dark Ages?]"*
  11. *"Secularization in Western societies in recent decades mean many old feuds were now forgotten there.*
  12. *"The rise of Pentecostal and charismatic movements over the past century "have put forward new emphases that have made many of the old confessional controversies seem obsolete,*
  13. *"The report said Luther's 95 Theses were meant to begin a debate about practices such as selling indulgences and were not intended to found a new church. Both sides mishandled the crisis that followed, leading to the final split.*
  14. *"But while ecumenical dialogue has developed new common understandings on some divisive points, other doctrines—such as the office of the Catholic pope or the nature of the ordained clergy—still remains significantly far apart*
  15. *"The Lutheran World Federation [not the Vatican!] said it wants to talk with Anglicans, Mennonite, Reformed, Orthodox and Pentecostal churches about how they might also participate in the 2017 commemoration."*

### **Comments from the inspired pen of Ellen G. White:**

Source: *Maranatha*, p. 190: "The Threefold Union"

"When our nation [the U.S.] shall so abjure the principles of its government as to enact a Sunday law, Protestants will in this act join hands with popery; it will be nothing else than giving life to the *tyranny* which has long been eagerly watching its opportunity to spring again into *active despotism*." 5T 712.

"Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf [that once separated them] to grasp the hands of spiritualism [the belief in the immortality of the soul—one of the fundamental doctrines of the papal church]; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this three-fold union, this country [U.S.], will follow in the steps of Rome in *trampling*

*upon the rights of conscience . . . .* “Papists, Protestants, and worldlings will alike accept the form of godliness without the power [ ], and they will see in this union *a grand movement for the conversion of the world* and the ushering in of *the long-expected millennium.*”- *The Great Controversy*, pp. 588, 589.

Source: Maranatha, p. 179: *It is time for thee, Lord, to work: for they have made void thy law. Psalm 119: 126.*

**Q. When, how, and by who will this prophecy of the psalmist become completely fulfilled, rebellious mankind from the time of Cain, has always been trampling upon God’s law and attempting to render it void?**

“A time is coming when the law of God is, in a special sense, to be made void in our land [the United States]. The rulers of our nation [elected officials, in particular] will, by legislative enactments, enforce the Sunday law, and thus God’s people will be brought into great peril. When our nation, in its legislative councils, shall enact laws to bind the conscience of men in regard to their religious privileges, enforcing Sunday observance, and bringing oppressive power to bear against those who keep the seventh-day Sabbath, the law of God will, to all intents and purposes, be *made void in our land.*” –Review & Herald, Dec. 18, 1888.

“When the land which the Lord provided as an *asylum* for His people, that they might *worship Him according to the dictates of their own conscience*, the land over which for long years the shield of Omnipotence has been spread, the land which God has favored by making it the depository of the pure religion of Christ---when that land shall, through its legislators, abjure the principles of Protestantism, and give countenance to Romish apostasy in tampering with God’s law---it is then that the final work of *the man of sin* will be revealed. Protestants will throw their whole influence and strength on the side of the Papacy; by a national act enforcing the false sabbath, they will give life and vigor to corrupt faith of Rome, reviving her tyranny and oppression of conscience.

**“Then it will be time for God to work in mighty power for the vindication of His truth.**

“The prophet says: ‘I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, *Babylon the great* is fallen, is fallen . . . . And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her my people, that ye be not partaker of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.’ Rev. 18: 4, 5.

**Q. When do her (“Babylon the great”) reach unto heaven?** “When the law of God is finally made void by legislation.” “Then the extremity of God’s people is His opportunity to show who is the governor of heaven and earth. As a Satanic power is stirring the elements from beneath [i.e., upon the earth], God will send light and power to His people, that the message of truth may be proclaimed to all the world.” – *Signs of the Times*, June 12, 1848.

**Q. What or who is this “another angel come down from heaven, having great power” who will give “light and power to His people” so that they will “work in mighty power for the vindication of His truth” and that “the message of truth may be proclaimed to all the world?”**

This mighty power of “another angel come down from haven,” elsewhere referred to by the Spirit of Prophecy as “the fourth angel,” is the final outpouring of the promised **latter rain** of the Holy Spirit. It brings on the final worldwide *movement* that finishes

and closes up the gospel work; then earth's probation closes forever, and the seven last plagues begin to fall on all who worship the beast and his image and received his mark in their foreheads and in their hands.

“Before the final visitation of God's judgments upon the earth there will be among the people of the Lord such *a revival of primitive godliness as has not been witnessed since apostolic times. The Spirit and power of God will be poured out upon His children.* At that time many will separate themselves from those churches in which the love of this world has supplanted the love for God and His word, Many, both of ministers and people, will gladly accept those *great truths* which God has caused to be proclaimed at this time *to prepare a people* [not the church or the whole world] for the Lord's second coming.” –Maranatha, p. 168. “The prophecies in the eighteenth of Revelation will soon be fulfilled. During the proclamation of the third angel's message, ‘another angel’ is to ‘come down from heaven, having great power’ and the earth is to be ‘lightened with his glory.’ The Spirit of the Lord will so graciously bless *consecrated human instrumentalities* that men, women, and children will open their lips in praise and thanksgiving, filling the earth with the knowledge of God, and with His unsurpassed glory, as the waters cover the sea.” *Ibid*, 218

#### **Q. What is Satan's counterfeit to the genuine outpouring of the latter rain?**

“The enemy of souls desires to hinder this work; and before the time for such a movement shall come, he will endeavor to prevent it by introducing a counterfeit. *In those churches which he can bring under his deceptive power he will make it appear that God's special blessing is poured out; there will be manifest what is thought to great religious interest. Multitudes will exalt that God is working marvelously for them, when the work is that of another spirit. Under a religious guise, Satan will seek to extend his influence over the Christian world.*” – *The Great Controversy*, p. 464.

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Source: The Christian Science Monitor, 6/19/2013, <http://news.yahoo.com/spains-people-drift-catholic-church-government-cozies-2011009124...6/19/2013> reports, with headline (emphasis mine):

#### **“As Spain's people drift from Catholic Church, government cozies up”**

“Spain's *conservative government* is considering dramatic restrictions on *abortion* and has already *increased the Catholic Church's role in education*, revealing a divided society. After years of moving in a more *socially liberal direction* along with the rest of western Europe, the Spanish government is now doing an *about face*, seeking to clamp down on abortion and return the Roman Catholic Church to a *prominent role in the country's school system*.

“Though the Church is still losing ground among the faithful. It has powerful friends in the current *conservative* Popular Party government, which has traditionally had close ties to the Vatican. Now the PP is pushing a controversial bill in parliament that would dramatically restrict access to abortion.

‘We are seeking an *alliance between the ruling party and the Catholic hierarchy* on moral issues. The Church wants to press its priorities and it *appears to be winning* on issues like *abortion and education*,’ says Juan Jose Tamayo, director of theology at Carlos III University.

“*But the return of religion to the public sphere* in a country that is over 70 percent Catholic is proving divisive. Spain is certainly split over *abortion*—an April poll published by El Pais, the country's leading daily, found that 46% of Spaniards don't want

the law changed, 41% support the government's new restrictive draft, and 105 want abortion to be illegal in all circumstances.

*"Abortion isn't the only place where the Church is making inroads. Last month, the PP, which has a majority in parliament, rammed a new education law through parliament that requires more religion classes in public schools and divert public funds to semi-private schools and gender-segregated schools that are mostly run by the Catholic Church."*

"Why the PP is tilting toward the church *isn't clear* from the perspective of political advantage, since it appears to be costing it popularity at a time of already heightened anger over the collapse of the economy.

*'All government are hostage to the Catholic Church. But there is a growing voice among Catholics that rejects the ties and that is being echoed in public opinion,' said Dr. Tamayo. 'It's a voice that is being ignored [by] both the Catholic hierarchy and the government.'*

#### "UNPOPULAR REFORMS

"Most Spaniards are against the broader educational reforms, including the majority of PP voters, although they're not necessarily against the measures benefitting the church. The reforms included several controversial provisions, including weakening the control of regional governments in public education and further cutting of public spending, which have hit schools and universities particularly hard.

"The planned *abortion law* reform is even more controversial and has brought out some splits within the PP, with officials publicly disagreeing about how profound the limits on abortion should be. The previous Socialist government broadened access to abortion in 2010, making it legal for all women within the first 14 weeks of pregnancy and limiting it to health concerns after. A draft law from the PP would limit abortion to only situations where it could effect the health of the mother.

"The political opposition often accuses the government of taking orders from Antonio Rouco, the ultraconservative Archbishop of Madrid and president of the Episcopal Conference that brings together the country's church hierarchy."

"The government should negotiate these reforms. It's *useless* to legislate on the matters unilaterally,' says Alejandro Torres, an expert in public law who has written about church-state relations. 'There will be another reform when the *government changes*.'

"But *abortion is politically important* for a currently very popular PP government. The party is gambling on securing the more conservative vote at risk of alienating the growing number of ideologically ambivalent, centrist voters.' A big number of PP supporters come from the center,' Dr. Torres said.

#### 'FAITHFUL BACKLASH

"The Spanish Church [actually, Roman Catholic Church] also risks losing more of its faithful. The number of practicing Catholics has been falling for years, while *agnostics, atheists, and followers of other religions have increased*, according to official census reports.

'It's a Spanish contradiction and the result of a demographic change. The majority say they are Catholics but only 10 percent goes to church regularly,' Dr. Torres said.

"Parallel to the spiritual transition, *there is growing support for more separation of church and state*. Ties between the PP and the church are too close, 56 percent said, and only 30 percent said ties were normal, according to the El Pais poll.

"Every year, fewer Spaniards chose the church as recipient of *a mandated charity contribution as a small share of income tax*, although the government can still choose Catholic charity organizations when it distributes the money of those who selected the second option: 'other.'



“Catholic internet forums also expose a divide among the faithful between those who want more or less religion in the public sphere.

“But when it ultimately comes down to the division between church and state, ‘I think we are in paralysis,’ Dr. Tamayo said.” (end of quote from Christian Science Monitor)

### **THE LATERAN TREATY** **The beginning of the Healing of the Wound of the Papacy** (From Wikipedia):

During the [unification of Italy](#) in the mid-19th Century, the [Papal States](#) resisted incorporation into the new nation, even as all the other Italian countries joined it; [Camillo Cavour](#)'s dream of proclaiming the [Kingdom of Italy](#) from the steps of [St. Peter's Basilica](#) did not come to pass. The nascent Kingdom of Italy invaded and occupied [Romagna](#) (the eastern portion of the Papal States) in 1860, leaving only [Latium](#) in the Pope's domains. Latium, including Rome itself, was [occupied](#) and annexed in 1870. For the following sixty years, relations between the Papacy and the Italian government were hostile, and the status of the Pope became known as the "[Roman Question](#)". Negotiations for the settlement of the Roman Question began in 1926 between the government of Italy and the Holy See, and culminated in the agreements of the Lateran Pacts, signed—the Treaty says<sup>[9]</sup>—for King [Victor Emmanuel III of Italy](#) by [Benito Mussolini](#), [Prime Minister and Head of Government](#), and for [Pope Pius XI](#) by [Pietro Gasparri](#), [Cardinal Secretary of State](#), on February 11, 1929. The agreements were signed in the [Lateran Palace](#), hence the name by which they are known.

The agreements included a political treaty which created the state of the Vatican City and guaranteed full and independent sovereignty to the [Holy See](#). The Pope was pledged to perpetual [neutrality](#) in [international relations](#) and to abstention from mediation in a controversy unless specifically requested by all parties. In the first article of the treaty, Italy reaffirmed the principle established in the 4 March 1848 Statute of the Kingdom of Italy, that "the Catholic, Apostolic and Roman Religion is the only religion of the State".<sup>[10]</sup> The attached financial agreement was accepted as settlement of all the claims of the Holy See against Italy arising from the loss of temporal power in 1870.



[Francesco Pacelli](#) was the right-hand man for [Pietro Gasparri](#) during the Lateran Treaty negotiations

The sum thereby given to the Holy See was actually less than Italy declared it would pay under the terms of the [Law of Guarantees](#) of 1871, by which the Italian government guaranteed to [Pope Pius IX](#) and his successors the use of, but not sovereignty over, the Vatican and Lateran Palaces and a yearly income of 3,250,000 [lire](#) as [indemnity](#) for the loss of [sovereignty](#) and territory. The Holy See, on the grounds of the need for clearly manifested independence from any political power in its exercise of spiritual jurisdiction, had refused to accept the settlement offered in 1871, and the Popes thereafter until the signing of the Lateran Treaty considered themselves [prisoners in the Vatican](#), a small, limited area inside Rome.

To commemorate the successful conclusion of the negotiations, Mussolini commissioned the [Via della Conciliazione](#) (Road of the Conciliation), which would symbolically link the Vatican City to the heart of Rome.

The Constitution of the Italian Republic, adopted in 1947, states that relations between the State and the Catholic Church "are regulated by the Lateran Treaties".<sup>[11]</sup>

In 1984, an agreement was signed, revising the concordat. Among other things, both sides declared: "The principle of the Catholic religion as the sole religion of the Italian State, originally referred to by the Lateran Pacts, shall be considered to be no longer in force".<sup>[12]</sup> The Church's position as the sole state-supported religion of Italy was also ended, replacing the state financing with a personal income tax called the [otto per mille](#), to which another ten religious groups, Christian and non-Christian, also have access. The revised concordat regulated the conditions under which civil effects are accorded to church marriages and to ecclesiastical declarations of nullity of marriages.<sup>[13]</sup> Abolished articles included those concerning state recognition of knighthoods and titles of nobility conferred by the Holy See,<sup>[14]</sup> the undertaking by the Holy See to confer ecclesiastical honours on those authorized to perform religious functions at the request of the State or the Royal Household,<sup>[15]</sup> and the obligation of the Holy See to enable the Italian government to present political objections to the proposed appointment of diocesan bishops.<sup>[16]</sup> In 2008, it was announced that the Vatican would no longer immediately adopt all Italian laws, citing conflict over right-to-life issues following the [trial and ruling of the Eluana Englaro case](#).<sup>[17]</sup>

(To be continued next month)