



Vatican City

POSTAL ISSUES

POSTAGE ISSUES OF 1933

WATERMARKED CROSSED KEYS — PERF. 14



Pope Pius XI



Pope Pius XI



Pope Pius XI



Pope Pius XI



St. Peter's



St. Peter's



St. Peter's





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POSTAL ISSUES

INTERNATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

1938



Crypt of St. Cecilia



Crypt of St. Cecilia



Crypt of St. Cecilia



Basilica of St. Petronilla



Basilica of St. Petronilla

Picturing the Crypts and Basilica in the Catacombs of Domitilla, this group of stamps commemorates the International Archeological Congress held in Rome in 1938. Attending were students and scholars interested in the catacombs and restorations.



Basilica of St. Petronilla





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POSTAL ISSUES

AIR MAIL SERIES OF 1947-48



Dove of Peace over St. Peter's House of Our Lady of Loreto Dove of Peace over St. Peter's



Swallows Circling Cross House of Our Lady of Loreto Swallows Circling Cross Swallows Circling Cross

This series of seven stamps shows three different symbolical designs. The dove, with olive branch of peace in its beak and St. Peter Basilica in the background, is associated with the constant efforts for peace emanating from the Holy See. The second shows the Holy House of Loreto, so called from the tradition that the house, wherein the Holy Family dwelt at Nazareth, was transported by angels to the city of Loreto, Italy. Appropriately, the Madonna of Loreto has been acclaimed the patroness of aviators. The third design shows swallows flying around the cross and emblem of the three hills atop the Egyptian obelisk in the Piazza of St. Peter.



Younger Tobias and Heavenly Guide



Younger Tobias and Heavenly Guide

The design of these stamps, taken from a little known painting of Alessandro Botticelli (1447-1510), depicts the Old Testament incident wherein the younger Tobias was accompanied on his journey to the City of Rages by a dog and by a heavenly guide, the Archangel Raphael.





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UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

1949



Angels with Clasped Hands



Angels with Clasped Hands

Angels with clasped hands in flight around the earth symbolize the Universal Postal Union on its 75th Anniversary. The illustration was designed by Nello Ena and the engraving prepared by M. Colombati. These much needed high value air post stamps were released on December 3, 1949.

PALATINE GUARD

1950



Palatine Guard



Palatine Guard



Palatine Guard

The Palatine Guard was organized by Pope Pius IX on December 14, 1850, from two previously existing bodies of militia. Ordinarily the duties consist mainly of standing guard during solemn functions and papal processions under the direction of the majordomo and the high chamberlain. The members are all Roman citizens and receive no remuneration for their services except a stipend for their uniforms. The set was issued on September 12, 1950.





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DOGMA OF ASSUMPTION

1951



Pope Pius XII



St. Peter's Square

This set of two stamps was issued on May 8, 1951 and commemorates the Enunciation of the Dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin made the later part of 1950. The 25 lire value shows Pope Pius XII proclaiming the Dogma from the Balcony of St. Peter's Church. Cardinals Canali and Mercati appear in the background. The 55 lire pictures St. Peter's Square thronged with Holy Year Pilgrims applauding the proclamation of the Dogma by the Supreme Pontiff.

8TH CENTENARY OF GRATIANUS

1951



Franciscus Gratianus



Franciscus Gratianus

A set of two stamps was issued on December 20, 1951 to mark the Eighth Centenary of Francis Gratianus. He was a noted Italian Canonist and the founder of the science of Canon Law. Gratianus was a monk and taught in the Convent of San Felici in Bologna. His great work is the Decretum Gratiani.





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CENTENARY OF POSTAGE STAMPS

1952



35

Mail Coach

Issued to commemorate the centenary of Roman States stamps. The design shows a mail coach coming out of the historical PONTEMOLLO Bridge in Rome. In the lower left corner is a reproduction of the 50 bajocchi stamp of the Roman States. The souvenir sheet, composed of four of the stamps, shows the Vatican coat of arms across the top.





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Saint Maria Goretti

SAINT MARIA GORETTI

1953

Saint Maria Goretti, Martyr of Purity, is one of the youngest saints of the Roman Catholic Church. At the age of 12, she met her death by refusing to sacrifice her chastity. This set commemorates the 50th anniversary of her martyrdom.



Saint Maria Goretti



Saint Clare of Assisi

SAINT CLARE

1953

Born of a noble family of Assisi, in 1212, Saint Clare founded the order of Franciscan nuns, which spread rapidly through Europe. She guided the work of the order until her death in 1253. Two years after her death she was canonized by Alexander IV. Her festival falls on August 12th.



Saint Clare of Assisi



Saint Peter's Dome

DOME OF ST. PETER'S AIRS

1953

This new airmail set depicts the roof and dome of St. Peter's Basilica. The dome was designed by Michelangelo and erected at a cost of over 200,000 gold scudi. It is a familiar sight to visitors at the Vatican.



Saint Peter's Dome

