

Papal Jurisprudence c. 400

Sources of the Canon Law Tradition

In the late fourth century, in the absence of formal church councils, bishops from all over the Western Empire wrote to the pope asking for advice on issues including celibacy, marriage law, penance, and heresy, with papal solutions to these problems often being incorporated into private collections of canon law. Most papal documents were therefore responses to questions from bishops, and not initiated from Rome. The volume brings together key texts, with both the Latin and English translations, arranged thematically to offer a new understanding of fundamental issues within canon law at a seminal moment. *Papal Jurisprudence c. 400* reveals what bishops were asking, and why the replies mattered. It is offered as a companion to the forthcoming volume *Papal Jurisprudence: Social Origins and Medieval Reception of Canon Law, 385–1234*.

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D. L. d'Avray
University College London



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For J.C.W.

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Abbreviations

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 'Gratian' | <i>Concordantia discordantium canonum</i> or <i>Decretum</i> |
| MGH | <i>Monumenta Germaniae Historica</i> |
| PL | J. P. Migne, <i>Patrologia Latina</i> . (Note: when a <i>Patrologia Latina</i> volume's reading is noted in the critical apparatus, the volume number follows immediately after <i>PL</i> to make a siglum, as in <i>PL67</i> , <i>PL130</i> .) |
| J ³ | P. Jaffé, ed., <i>Regesta Pontificum Romanorum</i> , 3rd edn, vol. I, ed. N. Herbers, M. Schütz <i>et al.</i> (Göttingen, 2016). |
| <i>Frisingensis</i> | The <i>Frisingensis Prima</i> , transmitted only by MS Clm 6243. |
| <i>Dionysiana</i> | The second edition of the canon law collection by Dionysius Exiguus, and the only one with surviving papal decretals. |
| <i>Quesnelliana</i> | The third of the three major early canon law collections, named after the scholar who first studied it, Paschuius Quesnel. |
| ODCC | F. L. Cross and E. A. Livingstone, eds., <i>Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church</i> (Oxford, 1997). |

Manuscript Sigla

- Da* Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de la France Lat. 3837
(*Dionysiana*)
- Db* Vatican City, Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana Vat. Lat. 5845
(*Dionysiana*)
- F* Munich, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Clm 6243 (*Frisingensis
Prima*)
- Qa* Arras Bibliothèque Municipale 572 (644) (*Quesnelliana*)
- Qw* Vienna, Oesterreichische Nationalbibliothek 7141 (*Quesnelliana*)