

THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO
THE COUNCIL OF TRENT

The Council of Trent was a major event in the history of Christianity. It shaped Roman Catholicism's doctrine and practice for the next four hundred years and continues to do so today. The literature on the Council is vast and in numerous languages. This *Companion*, written by an international group of leading researchers, brings together the latest scholarship on the principal issues treated at the Council: the relationship between Scripture and Tradition, original sin, justification, the sacraments (Baptism, Penance, Confirmation, Eucharist, Holy Orders – the Episcopacy, Marriage, and the Anointing of the Sick), sacred images, sacred music, and its reform of religious orders, the training of the clergy, the provision of pastoral care in the parish setting, and the implementation of its decrees. The *Companion* demonstrates that the Council unwittingly furthered the papal centralization of authority by allowing the interpretation of its decrees to be the exclusive prerogative of the Holy See and entrusting it with their implementation.

Nelson H. Minnich is a professor in the Department of History and in the School of Theology and Religious Studies at The Catholic University of America. Recipient of numerous fellowships and a former member of the Pontifical Committee of Historical Sciences, he is a scholar of early sixteenth-century conciliar and papal history. He has served as the editor of *The Catholic Historical Review* since 2005.



Frontispiece Pasquali Cati, *Council of Trent*, fresco, Rome, Santa Maria in Trastevere, 1588 [frontispiece] (Wikimedia Commons)

CAMBRIDGE COMPANIONS TO RELIGION

This is a series of companions to major topics and key figures in theology and religious studies. Each volume contains specially commissioned chapters by international scholars, which provide an accessible and stimulating introduction to the subject for new readers and nonspecialists.

Other Titles in the Series

- APOSTOLIC FATHERS Edited by Michael F. Bird and Scott Harrower
 AMERICAN CATHOLICISM Edited by Margaret M. McGuinness and Thomas F. Rzeznik
 AMERICAN ISLAM Edited by Juliane Hammer and Omid Safi
 AMERICAN JUDAISM Edited by Dana Evan Kaplan
 AMERICAN METHODISM Edited by Jason E. Vickers
 AMERICAN PROTESTANTISM Edited by Jason E. Vickers and Jennifer Woodruff Tait
 ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN RELIGIONS Edited by Barbette Stanley Spaeth
 APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE Edited by Colin McAllister
 AUGUSTINE'S CITY OF GOD Edited by David Vincent Meconi
 AUGUSTINE'S "CONFESSIONS" Edited by Tarmo Toom
 KARL BARTH Edited by John Webster
 THE BIBLE, 2ND EDITION Edited by Bruce Chilton
 THE BIBLE AND LITERATURE Edited by Calum Carmichael
 BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION Edited by John Barton
 BLACK THEOLOGY Edited by Dwight N. Hopkins and Edward P. Antonio
 DIETRICH BONHOEFFER Edited by John de Gruchy
 JOHN CALVIN Edited by Donald K. McKim
 CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE Edited by Colin Gunton
 CHRISTIAN ETHICS Edited by Robin Gill
 CHRISTIAN MYSTICISM Edited by Amy Hollywood and Patricia Z. Beckman
 CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHICAL THEOLOGY Edited by Charles Taliaferro and Chad V. Meister
 CHRISTIAN POLITICAL THEOLOGY Edited by Craig Hovey and Elizabeth Phillips
 CHRISTIANITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT Edited by Alexander J. B. Hampton and Douglas Hedley
 THE CISTERIAN ORDER Edited by Mette Birkedal Bruun
 CLASSICAL ISLAMIC THEOLOGY Edited by Tim Winter
 THE COUNCIL OF NICAENA Edited by Young Richard Kim
 JONATHAN EDWARDS Edited by Stephen J. Stein
 EVANGELICAL THEOLOGY Edited by Timothy Larsen and Daniel J. Treier

(continued after index)

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-108-49197-6 — The Cambridge Companion to the Council of Trent
Edited by Nelson H. Minnich
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-108-49197-6 — The Cambridge Companion to the Council of Trent
Edited by Nelson H. Minnich
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO
THE COUNCIL OF TRENT

Edited by

Nelson H. Minnich

Catholic University of America, Washington DC



Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-108-49197-6 — The Cambridge Companion to the Council of Trent
Edited by Nelson H. Minnich
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314-321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India

103 Penang Road, #05-06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108491976

DOI: 10.1017/9781108590280

© Cambridge University Press 2023

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2023

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-108-49197-6 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-108-74139-2 Paperback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Contents

List of Figures page ix
List of Contributors xi
Acknowledgments xiii
List of Abbreviations xv

- 1 Introduction: Historical Survey of the Council of Trent 1
NELSON H. MINNICH
- 2 The Organizational Structure of the Council of Trent 32
NELSON H. MINNICH
- 3 Schools of Theology at the Council of Trent 53
CHRISTIAN D. WASHBURN
- 4 Scripture and Traditions at the Council of Trent: The Fourth
and Fifth Sessions (1546) 72
WIM FRANÇOIS
- 5 Original Sin and Justification 97
MICHAEL ROOT
- 6 Sacraments in General, Baptism and Confirmation 122
JOHN F. BALDOVIN, S.J.
- 7 The Sacrament of Penance at the Council: Innovation As a
Confirmation of the Centuries-Old Tradition
of Confession 139
ROBERTO RUSCONI
- 8 Presence and Sacrifice: The Council of Trent on
the Eucharist 156
BRUCE D. MARSHALL
- 9 Bishops 180
VINCENZO LAVENIA
- 10 The Tridentine Proposal for the Formation of the Clergy:
The Seminaries 209
SIMONA NEGRUZZO

- 11 Pastoral Care 225
CELESTE MCNAMARA
- 12 The Decree on Marriage 242
GABRIELLA ZARRI
- 13 Reform of the Religious Orders 261
MICHAEL TAVUZZI
- 14 Sacred Art 279
MARCIA HALL
- 15 Sacred Music 303
DAVID CROOK
- 16 The Papacy and the Application of Conciliar Decrees 326
AGOSTINO BORROMEO
- Indexes* 341

Figures

- Frontispiece Pasquali Cati, *Council of Trent*, fresco, Rome, Santa Maria in Trastevere, 1588 [frontispiece] (Wikimedia Commons) *page x*
- 14.1 Frans Hogenberg, *The Calvinist Iconoclastic Riot of August 20, 1566*, engraving, Amsterdam, Rijksmuseum, 1588 280
- 14.2 Tommaso Laureti, *Triumph of the Cross*, fresco, Vatican Palace, Sala di Costantino, 1585 286
- 14.3 *Reconstruction of the Rood Screen*, Florence, Santa Croce, demolished, 1566 289
- 14.4 Federico Barocci, *Visitation*, Rome, Chiesa Nuova, 1583–86 293
- 14.5 Jacopo Tintoretto, *Institution of the Eucharist*, Venice, San Giorgio Maggiore, 1594 295
- 14.6 El Greco, *Resurrection*, Madrid, Prado, 1596–1600 297
- 14.7 Caravaggio, *Supper at Emmaus*, Milan, Brera, 1606 298
- 14.8 Adriaen Thomasz Key, *Last Supper* (detail), Antwerp, Museum of Fine Arts, 1575 300

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-108-49197-6 — The Cambridge Companion to the Council of Trent
Edited by Nelson H. Minnich
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

Contributors

Baldovin, John F., S. J., Professor of Historical and Liturgical Theology, Boston College School of Theology and Ministry

Borromeo, Agostino, Retired Professor of the Università degli Studi di Roma (La Sapienza) and member of the Pontifical Committee of Historical Sciences

Crook, David, Professor of Musicology in the Mead Witter School of Music, University of Wisconsin–Madison

François, Wim, Professor of History of Early Modern Church and Theology and Academic Librarian of the Maurits Sabbe Library, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Hall, Marcia, Laura H. Carnell Professor of Renaissance Art, Tyler School of Art and Architecture, Temple University

Lavenia, Vincenzo, Professor in the Dipartimento di Storia Culture Civiltà, Alma Mater Studiorum, University of Bologna

Marshall, Bruce D., Lehman Professor of Christian Doctrine, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University

McNamara, Celeste, Assistant Professor of History in the School of History and Geography, Dublin City University

Minnich, Nelson H., Professor of History and Church History, The Catholic University of America

Negrizzo, Simona, Professoressa in the Dipartimento di Storia Culture Civiltà – Alma Mater Studiorum, University of Bologna

Root, Michael, Professor Emeritus of Systematic Theology, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America

Rusconi, Roberto, Professore Emeritus di Studi Umanistici, Università degli studi Roma Tre

Tavuzzi, Michael, Retired Professor of The Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), Rome

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-108-49197-6 — The Cambridge Companion to the Council of Trent
Edited by Nelson H. Minnich
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

xii

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

Washburn, Christian D., Professor of Dogmatic Theology, The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity, University of St. Thomas

Zarri, Gabriella Bruna, Retired Professor of the Dipartimento di Storia, Archeologia, Geografia, Arte e Spettacolo (SAGAS), Università di Firenze

Acknowledgments

The essay of Roberto Rusconi was translated by Tyler Sampson, that of Agostino Borromeo by Jonathan Gaworski, supported by the Annabelle McConnell Melville Fund in the School of Theology and Religious Studies. The indexing was done by James Zwilling with support from the Board of Visitors Fund of the School of Arts and Sciences of The Catholic University of America. For their excellent services the editor is most appreciative.

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-108-49197-6 — The Cambridge Companion to the Council of Trent
Edited by Nelson H. Minnich
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

Abbreviations

- COD: *Conciliorum Œcumenicorum Decreta*, eds. Giuseppe Alberigo *et al.* Bologna, 1996.
- COD-T: "Trent, 1545-1563." In: *Decrees of the Ecumenical Councils*, Vol. II: *Trent to Vatican II*, ed. Norman P. Tanner, trans. Peter McIlhenny and John Coventry (Washington, DC, 1990), 660-799.
- CT: *Concilium Tridentinum. Diariorum, Actorum, Epistularum, Tractatum nova collectio*. Edidit Societas Goerresiana. 13 tomes. Freiburg im Breisgau, 1901-2001: Tom. I, II, III: *Diariorum*; Tom. IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX: *Actorum*; Tom. X, XI: *Epistularum*; Tom. XII, XIII: *Tractatum*.
- DH: Heinrich Denzinger and Peter Hünermann, eds., *Enchiridion Symbolorum Definitionum et Declarationum de Rebus Fidei et Morum*, 43rd ed. San Francisco, 2012
- LW: *Luther's Works (American Edition)*. 82 vols. St. Louis: Concordia; Philadelphia, 1955-
- WA: *D. Martin Luthers Werke: kritische Gesamtausgabe (Weimarer Ausgabe)*. 120 vols. Weimar, 1883-2009

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-108-49197-6 — The Cambridge Companion to the Council of Trent
Edited by Nelson H. Minnich
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)
