

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| <i>Acknowledgments</i> | iv |
| <i>List of Tables</i> | ix |
| <i>Author's Note</i> | 1 |
| <i>Preface</i> | 3 |
| Chapter One: In the Beginning — The First 1,200 Years | 7 |
| I: The Stage Is Set | 7 |
| <i>The Macabre — The Cadaver Synod</i> | 10 |
| II: The Early Papal Dynasties | 11 |
| <i>The Family of Teofilatto (Theophylact or Theophylactus)</i> | 11 |
| <i>The Family of Crescenzi (Crescentii or Crescentius)</i> | 15 |
| <i>The Counts of Tusculum and Other Descendants of Teofilatto</i> | 17 |
| <i>The Pierleoni Family</i> | 20 |
| <i>The Conti Family Dynasty (Part One)</i> | 25 |
| Chapter Two: The Papal Families at the Close of the Middle Ages, 1200–1471 | 31 |
| <i>The Conti Family Dynasty (Part Two)</i> | 31 |
| <i>The Fieschi Family</i> | 32 |
| <i>The Visconti Family</i> | 34 |
| <i>The Orsini Family Dynasty (Part One)</i> | 36 |
| <i>The Savelli Family (Part One)</i> | 37 |
| <i>An Abdication</i> | 37 |
| <i>The C(G)aetani Family</i> | 38 |
| <i>The French Papacy in Avignon</i> | 41 |
| <i>Avignon Ends and a New Era of Italian Popes Begins</i> | 45 |
| <i>The Dynasty from Venice</i> | 46 |
| <i>The Colonna Family (Part One)</i> | 47 |
| <i>The Piccolomini Family of Siena</i> | 50 |

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Chapter Three: The Renaissance Popes and Their Families, 1471–1565 | 51 |
| I: The della Rovere and Cibo Families | 51 |
| <i>The della Rovere Family Dynasty</i> | 51 |
| <i>The Cibo (Cybo) Family</i> | 57 |
| II: The House of Borgia | 58 |
| <i>Caesar Borgia</i> | 60 |
| <i>Lucrezia Borgia</i> | 63 |
| <i>Other Borgia Descendants</i> | 66 |
| <i>The Mistresses of Pope Alexander VI</i> | 67 |
| III: The Medici and Farnese Families | 71 |
| <i>The Medici Family Dynasty</i> | 71 |
| <i>The Farnese (Farnesi) Family Dynasty</i> | 76 |
| <i>The Farnese and Sforza Families</i> | 79 |
| IV: The Renaissance Comes to a Close | 82 |
| <i>The del Monte Family</i> | 83 |
| <i>The Carafa Family (Part One)</i> | 84 |
| Chapter Four: The Papal Dynasties of the Baroque Period, 1572–1740 | 89 |
| I: From Boncompagni to Ludovisi | 89 |
| <i>The Boncompagni Family Dynasty (Part One)</i> | 89 |
| <i>The Damasceni-Peretti Family/The Orsini Family Dynasty (Part Two)</i> | 91 |
| <i>The Sfondrati Family</i> | 94 |
| <i>The Aldobrandini Family</i> | 95 |
| <i>The Borghese Family Dynasty/The Orsini Family Dynasty (Part Three)</i> | 97 |
| <i>The Torlonia Family</i> | 101 |
| <i>The Ludovisi Family</i> | 101 |
| II: From Barberini to Corsini | 104 |
| <i>The Barberini Family Dynasty/The Colonna Family (Part Two)</i> | 104 |
| <i>The Pamfili Family Dynasty</i> | 109 |
| <i>The Savelli Family (Part Two)</i> | 112 |
| <i>The Colonna Family (Part Three)</i> | 112 |
| <i>The Chigi Family</i> | 114 |
| <i>The Albani (Chigi-Albani) Family</i> | 116 |
| <i>The Rospigliosi Family</i> | 117 |
| <i>The Colonna Family (Part Four)</i> | 118 |
| <i>The Altieri Family</i> | 119 |
| <i>The Odescalchi-Erba Family</i> | 120 |
| <i>The Ottoboni Family Dynasty</i> | 121 |
| <i>The Boncompagni Family Dynasty (Part Two)</i> | 122 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| <i>The Pignatelli Family</i> | 123 |
| <i>The Carafa Family (Part Two)</i> | 125 |
| <i>The Orsini Family Dynasty (Part Four)</i> | 126 |
| <i>The Corsini Family</i> | 127 |
| Chapter Five: The Papacy after 1740— The Modern Period | 131 |
| Chapter Six: Papal Dynasties and Noble Houses | 139 |
| I: The Italian Houses and the Papacy — A Retrospective | 139 |
| II: The Italian Houses and European Nobility | 146 |
| III: The Borghese — Case in Point | 160 |
| Chapter Seven: Papal Dynasties and Nepotism | 165 |
| I: Early History | 165 |
| II: The Late Middle Ages and Renaissance | 167 |
| III: The Late Renaissance and the Baroque Periods | 169 |
| IV: Papal Families Never Die | 171 |
| V: The Modern Papacy and a Renewed Reverence for the Supreme Pontiff | 173 |
| <i>Appendix A: Additional Genealogical Tables of Papal Families</i> | 177 |
| <i>Appendix B: Reference Guide to the Papal Dynasties</i> | 211 |
| <i>Appendix C: Chronological List of the Popes and Antipopes</i> | 230 |
| <i>Notes</i> | 237 |
| <i>Selected Sources</i> | 251 |
| <i>Index</i> | 255 |