Record Nr. UNINA9910452721303321 Autore Michelson Emily Titolo The pulpit and the press in Reformation Italy [[electronic resource] /] / **Emily Michelson** Pubbl/distr/stampa Cambridge, Mass., : Harvard University Press, c2013 0-674-07531-5 **ISBN** 0-674-07529-3 1 online resource (272 pages): illustrations, tables Descrizione fisica Collana I Tatti studies in Italian Renaissance history Disciplina 274.506 Soggetti Reformation - Italy Sermons - History and criticism Sermons - Italy Electronic books. Italy Church history Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Where sermons mattered -- Mendicants -- Sermons and diocesan reform -- Treatises -- The generation after Trent -- Epilogue: sermons and their reception. Italian preachers during the Reformation era found themselves in the Sommario/riassunto trenches of a more desperate war than anything they had ever imagined. This war-the splintering of western Christendom into conflicting sects-was physically but also spiritually violent. In an era of tremendous religious convolution, fluidity, and danger, preachers of all kinds spoke from the pulpit daily, weekly, or seasonally to confront the hottest controversies of their time. Preachers also turned to the printing press in unprecedented numbers to spread their messages. Emily Michelson challenges the stereotype that Protestants succeeded in converting Catholics through superior preaching and printing. Catholic preachers were not simply reactionary and uncreative mouthpieces of a monolithic church. Rather, they deftly and imaginatively grappled with the question of how to preserve the

orthodoxy of their flock and maintain the authority of the Roman church while also confronting new, undeniable lay demands for

inclusion and participation. These sermons-almost unknown in English until now-tell a new story of the Reformation that credits preachers with keeping Italy Catholic when the region's religious future seemed uncertain, and with fashioning the post-Reformation Catholicism that thrived into the modern era. By deploying the pulpit, pen, and printing press, preachers in Italy created a new religious culture that would survive in an unprecedented atmosphere of competition and religious choice.