

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910511755703321
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Titolo	The vacant see in the early modern Rome : a social history of the Papal interregnum // by John M. Hunt
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden, [Netherlands] ; ; Boston, [Massachusetts] : , : Brill, , 2016 ©2016
ISBN	90-04-31378-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (311 pages) : illustrations, photographs
Collana	Studies in Medieval and Reformation Traditions, , 1573-4188 ; ; Volume 200
Disciplina	262/.1309031
Soggetti	Papacy - History - 1566-1799 Vacancy of the Holy See Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material -- Introduction -- 1 The Papal Hydra: The Politics of the Vacant See -- 2 The Pope is Dead! Rumor and Ritual in the Vacant See -- 3 Fear and Loathing in the Vacant See -- 4 Violence and Vengeance in the Vacant See -- 5 Protesting the Papal Prince -- 6 The Conclave and the People of Rome -- Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	In The Vacant See in Early Modern Rome John M. Hunt offers a social history of the papal interregnum from 1559 to 1655. The study concentrates on the Roman people's relationship with their sacred ruler. Using criminal sources from the Archivio di Stato di Roma and Vatican sources, Hunt emphasizes the violent and tumultuous nature of the lapse in papal authority that followed the pope's death. The vacant see was a time in which Romans of modest social backgrounds claimed unprecedented power. From personal acts of revenge to collective protests staged at the Capitol Hill and citywide discussions of the papal election the vacant see provided Romans with a unique opportunity for political involvement in an age of omnipresent hierarchy.