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| Nota di contenuto | 1. Introduction: Rome and the powers in the modern age -- 2. The papacy between revolutionary upheaval and restoration, 1789-1849 -- 3. Rome grapples with liberalism, nationalism, and sectionalism, 1849-1878 -- 4. The papacy confronts social issues, modernism, and international relations, 1878-1914 -- 5. Benedict XV, the World War, and the League of Nations, 1914-1922 -- 6. The Vatican in an age of dictatorship, totalitarianism, and anti-Semitism, 1922-1939 -- 7. The Vatican's "impartiality," "silence," and "internationalism" during World War II and beyond -- 8. The papacy and the cold war: the confrontation between Catholicism and communism -- 9. The Second Vatican Council, aggiornamento, and papal accommodation with the modern world, 1958-1978 -- 10. The contemporary papacy, shuttle diplomacy, and the collapse of communism, 1978-2003 -- 11. Quo vadis Benedict XVI? -- 12. Conclusion: continuity and change in papal policy. |
| Sommario/riassunto | The outbreak of the French Revolution and the Industrial Revolution at the turn of the nineteenth century transformed the world and ushered in the modern age, whose currents challenged the traditional political order and the prevailing religious establishment. The new secular framework presented a potential threat to the papal leadership of the Catholic community, which was profoundly affected by the rush towards modernization. In the nineteenth century the transnational |

church confronted a world order dominated by the national state, until
the emergence of globalization towards the close of
