

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910828043503321
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Titolo	The pulpit and the press in Reformation Italy // Emily Michelson
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, Mass., : Harvard University Press, c2013
ISBN	0-674-07531-5 0-674-07529-3
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (272 pages) : illustrations, tables
Collana	I Tatti studies in Italian Renaissance history
Disciplina	274.506
Soggetti	Reformation - Italy Sermons - History and criticism Sermons - Italy Italy Church history
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Where sermons mattered -- Mendicants -- Sermons and diocesan reform -- Treatises -- The generation after Trent -- Epilogue: sermons and their reception.
Sommario/riassunto	Italian preachers during the Reformation era found themselves in the 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 convulsion, 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.
