

Jesus said to his disciples. Whom do you say that I am?

Simon Peter answered and said: Thou art Christ the Son of the living God.

And Jesus answering, said to him: Blessed art thou Simon Bar-Jona; because flesh and blood hath not revealed it to thee, but my father who is in heaven...

And I will give to thee the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. And whatsoever thou shalt bind upon earth, it shall be bound also in heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose upon earth, shall be loosed also in heaven. S. Matthew xvi. 15-19.



"Was anything concealed from Peter, who was styled the Rock, on which the Church was built, who received the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and the power of loosing and binding in Heaven and on earth?" - Laurentius Prescrip. xvii.

"There is one God, and one Church, and one Chair founded by the voice of the Lord upon Peter. That any other Altar be erected, or any other Priesthood established, besides that one Altar, and one Priesthood, is impossible. Whoever gathers elsewhere, scatters. Whoever is devised by human frenzy, in violation of the Divine Ordinance, is adulterous, impious, sacrilegious." - St. Cyprian Ep. 42 ad plebem.

"All of them remaining silent, for the doctrine was beyond the reach of man, Peter the Prince of the Apostles and the supreme herald of the Church, not following his own inventions, nor persuaded by human reasoning, but enlightened by the Father, says to him: Thou art Christ, and not this alone, but the Son of the living God." - St. Cyril of Jerus. Cat. xi. l.

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Calendar.

- Sunday - IV after Pent Nat of St. John the Bap with Oct.
Monday - St. Galleanus M doub comm of Oct.
Tuesday - SS John and Paul Mm
Wednesday - St William Abbot doub comm of Oct.
Thursday - St Leo II PC doub comm of Oct and Vigil.
Friday - SS Peter and Paul Apost Holiday of Oblig doub I class with Oct.

ALLOCATION OF OUR MOST HOLY FATHER POPE PIUS IX.

Profounded in the Secret Consistory at Gaeta on April 20, 1848.

(Translated for the Tablet from the copy given by the Holy See to the Rev. Am. de la Religion.)

Venerable Brothers—No one assuredly is ignorant what terrible storms our Pontifical States have undergone the whole of Italy, are to this emergency of our soul, after a miserable manner, tossed and agitated. And would that men, taught by these most lamentable revolutions, may at least understand that nothing can be more pernicious to themselves than to diverge from the paths of truth, justice, virtue, and religion, and to acquiesce in the detestable counsels of the impious, and to be deceived and entangled by their machinations, frauds, and errors. Indeed, the whole world well knows and testifies how great was the solicitude which we felt by our paternal and most loving heart, in providing for the true and solid profit, tranquility and prosperity of our Pontifical States, and what was the fruit reaped by that solicitude, indulgence and love. Yet by these words we only condemn the crafty workmen of such great evils, without desiring to attribute any blame to the greatest part of the people. Nevertheless, we are obliged to lament that many even of the people have been so miserably deceived, that, turning away their ears from our words and admonitions, they yielded themselves to the fallacious doctrines of certain teachers, who, leaving the right way and walking by dark ways (Prov. ii. 13.) minded this only, that by magnificent and false promises they might lead onwards and grave headlong the minds and hearts especially of inexperienced men, into fraud and error. All assuredly grieve with what transports of affection we everywhere celebrated that memorable and ample amnesty granted by us in order to secure the peace, tranquility, and happiness of families. Nor is any one ignorant that several of those who were favored by that amnesty not only did not fulfil our expectations, by making the least change in our minds, but that applying even yet more vehemently to their designs and machinations, there was nothing they did not dare, nothing they did not attempt, in order (as they had long plotted) to undermine and overthrow the throne of the most merciful of the Roman Pontiff and his government, and at the same time carry on a most bitter warfare against our most holy Religion. But that they might the more effectually do this, they sought, in the first place, to call together the multitudes to influence and agitate them by great and incessant movements, which, even taking advantage of our concessions as a pretext, they sought with their utmost power constantly to foment and day by day to increase. Hence the concessions freely and willingly granted by us in their beginning of our Pontificate,

not only were never able to yield the wished-for fruits, but not even to take root, because those crafty architects of deceits abused the same to the exciting of new agitations. And these facts, Venerable Brothers, have we deemed it fit briefly to touch upon, and rapidly to review, with this intention, that all men of good-will may clearly and openly know what the enemies of God and of the human race intend and desire, and what is by them always fixed and determined in their minds. Our singular affection towards our subjects, Venerable Brothers, made us feel vehement grief and distress, when we perceived that those constant popular movements were so adverse both to public tranquillity and order, and also to the private quietness and peace of families, nor were we able to endure those frequent pecuniary collections, which were demanded on various pretexts, not without great inconvenience and expense to the citizens. Therefore, in the month of April, 1847, by a public edict of our Cardinal Secretary of State, we admonished all to abstain from such popular assemblages and subscriptions, and again direct their minds to attend to their own affairs, to repose all confidence in us, and to feel assured that our paternal cares and anxieties were alone directed to provide for the public good, as we had already shewn by many most evident proofs. But these salutary admonitions of ours, whereby we endeavoured to calm these great popular movements, and to recal the people themselves to pursuits of peace and tranquillity, were exceedingly opposed to the bad desires and machinations of certain men. Accordingly those unwearied authors of agitation, who had already resisted another edict, issued by our order by the same Cardinal, for promoting the good and useful education of the people, scarcely knew of our admonition, before they began every where to exclaim against it, and with a more embittered zeal to agitate the incautious multitudes, and most craftily to insinuate, and to persuade them never to yield themselves to that tranquillity which we so much desired, as there lay hid under it an insidious design of as it were lulling the people to sleep, so that hereafter they might the easier be oppressed by the hard yoke of slavery. And from that time numerous writings, even in print, filled with all sorts of most bitter contumelies, reproaches and threats, were sent to us, which we have buried in eternal oblivion and committed to the flames. But that our enemies might procure some belief in those false dangers which they clamoured were impending on the people, they ventured to scatter abroad a rumour and fear of a certain pretended conspiracy forged and got up by themselves, and to vociferate, by a detestable falsehood, that such a conspiracy was entered upon with the object of devastating the city of Rome with civil war, assassinations, and carnage, that new institutions being altogether taken away, and destroyed, the old form of government might again be revived. But by the false pretext of this conspiracy, our enemies had the intention wickedly to excite and provoke the contempt, jealousy, and fury of the people against certain most illustrious men, eminent for their virtue and religion, and also of exalted ecclesiastical dignity. You are aware that in the midst of this tumult, affairs of the Civic Guard was proposed, and assembled with such celerity, that provision could by no means be made for its constitution and discipline.

wounds on the Government, and at the same time of contriving that such institution, which might have been of great utility to the public interests, should turn out to their loss and detriment, and since the motion had now prevailed with impunity, that by that institution both the character and nature of the Pontifical Government was changed, and our authority subjected to the judgment of the Consultors, we, therefore, on the very day that the Council of State was inaugurated, did not neglect, seriously to admonish, with grave and severe words, certain turbulent men, who accompanied the Consultors, and clearly and openly to manifest to them the true end of this institution. But the factious never desisted, with yet greater impetuosity to agitate the deeper part of the people, and in order that they might the easier gather together and increase the number of their followers, they did, with signal shamelessness and audacity, spread abroad, both in our own Pontifical States and also in foreign nations, the assertion that we entirely assented to their opinions and designs. You remember, Venerable Brothers, with what language, in our Consistorial Allocation pronounced before you on Oct. 4th, 1847, we seriously admonished and exhorted the people most vigilantly to be on their guard against the perfidy of these traitors. Meanwhile, however, the obstinate authors of plots and agitations, in order that they might continually feed and excite fears and disturbances, did in the January of last year alarm the minds of the incautious by an idle rumour of a foreign war, and spread it abroad among the people, that the same war would be fomented and sustained by domestic machinations, and the malevolent inertness of the rulers. In order to tranquilize the public mind and repel the insidious schemes of the traitors, we, without any delay, did on the 10th of February in the same year, declare that those rumours were altogether false and absurd, in terms which every one knows. And at that time, we warned our most dear subjects of what will by God's help now take place, namely, that it would come to pass that innumerable sons would fly to defend the house of the common Father of all the Faithful, that is to say the States of the Church, if those most strait bands of gratitude, whereby the Princes and people of Italy ought to be intimately bound to each other, should come to be dissolved, and the people themselves forget to reverence the wisdom of their princes, and the sanctity of their rights, and to maintain and defend the same with all their force.

that they should both study to respect the liberty of the Catholic Church, and to protect the order of civil society, and to follow up the precepts of our most holy Religion, and above all to exercise Christian charity to all men, since if they neglected to do this, they might hold it for certain, that God would show that he was the Ruler of the people. To proceed, every one of you knows well how the form of Constitutional Government was brought into Italy, and how a statute granted by us to our subjects was published on the 14th of March last year. But as the implacable enemies of public tranquillity and order had nothing so much at heart as to attempt every thing against the Pontifical Government, and to agitate the people by constant movements and suspicions, they never ceased, whether by published writings or circles, or associations, or other arts of whatever kind, atrociously to calumniate the Government, and to fix on it the mark of inertness, of deceit and fraud, although the Government itself was applying with all care and diligence to this object, that the Statute, so much longed for, might be put into operation with as much celerity as possible. And here we desire to publish to the whole world that at that very time, those men persevering in their design of subverting the Pontifical dominion, and the whole of Italy proposed to us the proclamation, no longer of a Constitution, but of a Republic, as the only refuge and defence both of our own safety, and of the Ecclesiastical State. That nocturnal hour is still present to our mind, and we have before our eyes certain men who, miserably deluded and deceived by the architects of deceit, did not hesitate to take their part in that affair, and to propose to us the proclamation of a Republic. Which indeed, in addition to numberless other most weighty arguments, demonstrates that the petitions for new institutions and the projects so loudly vaunted by men of such sort, have this alone in view, that incessant agitation may be fomented; that all the principles of justice, virtue, honour and religion may be everywhere totally swept away, and the horrible and most lamentable system which they style Socialism or Communism, entirely adverse as it is even to reason and the law of nature, may, to the greatest detriment and ruin of the whole of human society, in all directions, be spread and propagated, and far and wide exercise dominion.