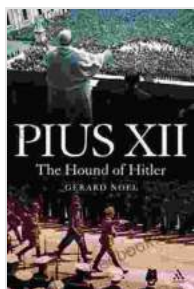


# Pius XII: The Hound of Hitler or the Pope of Peace?

Pope Pius XII, born Eugenio Pacelli, was the 260th Pope of the Catholic Church, serving from 1939 to 1958. His papacy coincided with the tumultuous years of World War II and the Holocaust, during which he has been accused by some of turning a blind eye to the atrocities committed by the Nazi regime.

Pius XII's supporters argue that he worked behind the scenes to help Jews and other victims of the Holocaust, while his critics maintain that he could have done more to speak out against Nazi atrocities. The debate over Pius XII's actions during the Holocaust is a complex and controversial one, with no easy answers.



## Pius XII: The Hound of Hitler by Gerard Noel

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1485 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 231 pages



## Early Life and Career

Eugenio Pacelli was born in Rome, Italy, on March 2, 1876. He was the son of a lawyer and diplomat, and his family was devoutly Catholic. Pacelli

studied law and theology at the Gregorian University in Rome, and he was ordained a priest in 1899.

Pacelli served as a diplomat for the Vatican in various countries, including Germany and Great Britain. He was made a cardinal in 1929, and he became the Secretary of State under Pope Pius XI in 1930.

When Pius XI died in 1939, Pacelli was elected as his successor and took the name Pius XII. He was crowned Pope on March 12, 1939.

## **World War II and the Holocaust**

Pius XII's papacy began just six months before the outbreak of World War II. The war had a devastating impact on Europe, and the Holocaust was one of the darkest chapters in human history.

The Nazis murdered six million Jews during the Holocaust, and they also killed millions of other people, including Roma, homosexuals, and political dissidents.

Pius XII has been accused of turning a blind eye to the Holocaust. Some critics argue that he could have done more to speak out against Nazi atrocities, and that he could have used his influence to help Jews and other victims of the Holocaust.

Pius XII's supporters argue that he did what he could to help Jews and other victims of the Holocaust, given the difficult circumstances of the time. They point out that he spoke out against the Nazis on several occasions, and that he helped to organize rescue efforts for Jews.

## **Post-War Years**

After the war, Pius XII focused on rebuilding the Catholic Church and promoting peace. He convened the Second Vatican Council, which was a major event in the history of the Catholic Church.

Pius XII died on October 9, 1958. He was succeeded by Pope John XXIII.

## Legacy

Pius XII's legacy is complex and controversial. He has been praised by some for his work to promote peace and rebuild the Catholic Church, but he has also been criticized for his actions during the Holocaust.

The debate over Pius XII's legacy is likely to continue for many years to come.

Pius XII was a complex and controversial figure. He has been accused of being both a Nazi sympathizer and a hero who helped to save Jews during the Holocaust. The truth is likely somewhere in between.

Pius XII's legacy is still being debated today. Some historians believe that he could have done more to speak out against the Nazis, while others argue that he did what he could to help Jews and other victims of the Holocaust given the difficult circumstances of the time.

## Further Reading

\* Pius XII and the Holocaust \* Pope Pius XII \* Pius XII and the Jews

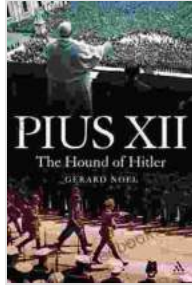
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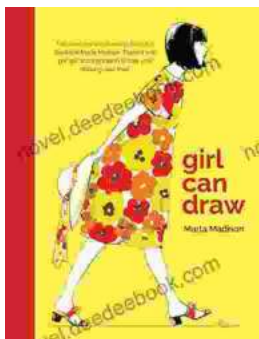
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