Note
The Filmed Manuscripts and Printed Books of the Vatican Library
in the Pius XII Memorial Library of St. Louis University.

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For more than twenty years, the University of St. Louis, thanks to the contribution of the Knights of Columbus and the initiative of Prof. L.J. Daly, S.J., has been filming a large collection of printed books and manuscripts of the Vatican Library. During these years, the film library has accumulated about three-fourths of the Greek, Latin and Western European vernacular manuscripts. Much other material of the Vatican Library has also been acquired, where it could be of interest to scholars, either in Arabic and Hebrew, or in Armenian, Coptic, Ethiopian, Persian, Syriac and Turkish.

It is fitting to indicate, however, that the state papers of the Holy See, preserved in the Vatican Archives, that is, civil and ecclesiastical government papers, are not included in the film library.

The filmed manuscripts range from the fifth to the nineteenth century and represent virtually all Western cultural development. The collection includes rare copies of Greek and Classical works. Especially well documented are the patristic age and medieval literature, including the vernacular, such as documents in Italian, French, Provençal. A strong point of the collection is the Italian Renaissance literature. The Northern Renaissance is much less well represented. There is considerable political and ecclesiastical material scattered throughout the literary documents. The languages that dominate are Latin and Italian, then Greek, and finally the other Western European vernaculars.

The St. Louis Library has also collected many research guides, most useful to researchers, and it should be noted that there are three types of guides to the contents of the codices gathered in the various collections of the Vatican Library:

1. A Vatican card catalog of about 250,000 cards has been duplicated in the film library and covers about 7,000 codices. It has entries by author, title, subject and "incipit."
2. For a very considerable part of the Vatican Library, several catalogs and indexes have been published, but some collections, such as the Borghese, Urbino and Ferrajoli, are only partially covered.
3. For the codices not covered by these published guides, there is a third type of guide, a large set of handwritten inventories and indexes, of which the St. Louis Library has a complete microfilm copy. These inventories supplement very conveniently the unpublished catalogs. That is the case for a large number of codices of the Chigi and Barberini collections.

Other research material and tools are part of the film library, such as some older national, local, and regional bio-bibliographies, especially those that relate to medieval and Renaissance cultural history. In this respect should be mentioned the particular field of scholastic philosophy and theology.

Another category of research tools is the catalogs and histories of the various European manuscript libraries. They serve as guides to manuscript holdings other than those of the Vatican and may often supplement the historian's findings in many ways.

Since 1957, St. Louis University has issued a special periodical entitled *Manuscripts*, dealing with manuscript research based on Vatican Library resources. Several articles have appeared concerning Greek and Latin literature, the Italian Renaissance, medieval philosophy and theology, the history of religion, of medicine, etc.

Photostatic copies of individual Vatican Library manuscripts may be ordered through the film library at the following address:

The Pius XII Memorial Library, 3655 West Pine Boulevard, Saint-Louis, Missouri 63108.

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