



The exhibition "Lux Arcana - The Vatican Secret Archives reveals," from February 2012 to the Capitoline Museums, will see the book "heavier" the Vatican Secret Archives. The inventory is kept with the number 8,590, and with its 60 kg weight, the cover of wood and red leather binding, contains information about finances, property and administrative management of the Borghese family. It is part of the fund donated by members of the noble Roman family, the Vatican Secret Archives in 1932. To deliver this unique volume, underground storage rooms to study, whenever two people are needed.

It is not the only surprise of a show that promises to be an important cultural event. The exhibition will illustrate the consistency of such seals, used to secrete official documents, metal or wax from the Middle Ages. Since then it spread even the combined use of minerals such as lead oxide or carbonate of copper, to get different colors. The lead seal, then, was used for papal documents, particularly letters of Chancery. We must get to the period between the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries seem to see the wax, wax, also known as Spain, whose main ingredient is a substance secreted by certain insects.

Vatican papal bulls from the Archives also original, as the only thirteen kept the pontificate of Paul III Farnese (1534-1549), issued from the thousands with which the offices of the Roman Curia, they sent their letters in the whole Christian world. The manufacture of metal matrix, used to inject bubbles Farnese pope, had been executed by Benvenuto Cellini. The famous Florentine engraver received from the Apostolic Chamber to pay 50 crowns as compensation for his work. This is revealed by the mandate of payment records maintained in the Archives of the Apostolic Chamber.

All of this and other documents will allow the reconstruction of twelve centuries of history of conclaves, heresies, popes and emperors, the crusades, excommunications directly through the sources.

The exhibition will also shed light on some historical figures emblematic of an era, as Giles Alvarez de Albornoz y Luna, Cardinal leader who was also chancellor of the king of Spain. We are in the middle of 1300, under Pope Clement VI, in the period when he fled the papal court at Avignon. The pope recognized the right to Albornoz commissioned to restore papal authority in the territories of the Italian Church, in the hands of various local lords and in a situation of almost complete anarchy. Between military and diplomatic actions succeeded in bringing under the sphere of papal authority Spoleto, the Romagna and the Marche. A result of his action

were also so-called Constitutions Egidiane, a set of rules that governed relations between the Pope and the major landowners, who remained in force until as late as 1816.

The official website - www.luxinarcana.org - provides continuous updates on advances of documents that will be part of the exhibition. These manuscripts, codices, scrolls, files and records, kept for over 400 years in the Archives of the Popes, who will cross the doors of the Vatican Museum in Rome to be exhibited until September 2012.

Among the treasures of the exhibition including original documents and precious, like the Inter Cetera Bull of Alexander VI on the discovery of the New World in 1493, revealed just in time for the anniversary of the discovery of America, October 12, 1492. Issued by Pope Alexander VI (Rodrigo de Borja Spanish) the return of Christopher Columbus in Europe at the request of the Spanish monarchs - fearful of claims by Portugal - the bubble boundary of the maritime and colonial dominion of Spain and Portugal and this was also known as bubble partition. With it also asks the Pope to the sovereigns to send early Catholic missionaries in the new lands to convert indigenous people to Christianity.

Among the 100 documents have already been released on Privilegium Ottonianum, the Dictatus Pope Gregory VII, the bull of deposition of Frederick II, Leo X excommunicated Luther, the letter of the members of the British Parliament to Clement VII on the bed because of Henry VIII, the proceedings of the trial of Galileo Galilei, the letter of the Empress Helena on silk of China, the letter written on birch bark by American Indians to Leo XIII, some selected documents of the "closed period" relating to the War the world.