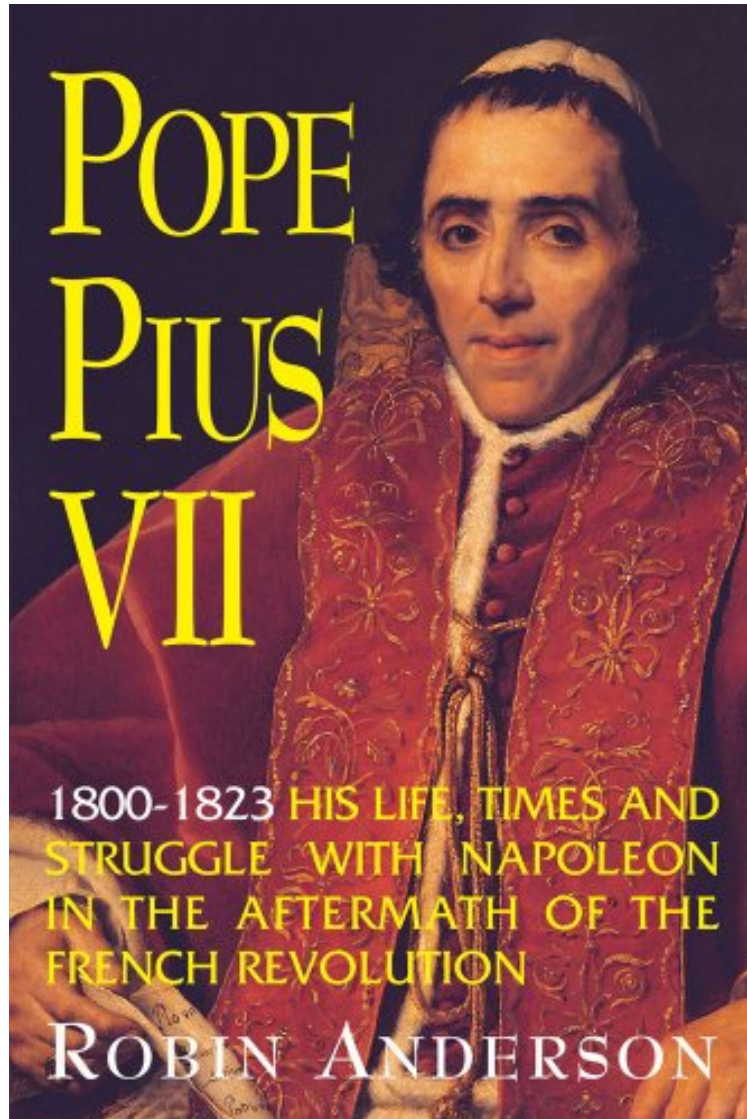


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Pope Pius VII: (1800-1823)

Robin Anderson

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narrate the harsh captivity of the Pope under Napoleon, first at Savona and then at Fontainebleau, but he brings in the wider political trends of the period, detailing the intense struggle Pius faced in the Gallican bishops and the 'Enlightened' thought that swept Europe. The Pope's chief cardinal-advisors are also tied into the biography; of particular interest is Cardinal Consalvi's positive negotiations with the British government after Napoleon's fall, and his attempts to secure greater liberties to British Catholics. The political and social climates were not friendly to the Church even after the collapse of the first French Empire. The Church had to negotiate its place with new modern states. Here, Pius VII shined brilliantly, trying to steer a 'middle way' that would not antagonize his adversaries to rebellion. His attempts to reintegrate the Faith with secular government as far as possible without compromising Catholic Doctrine was a lifelong task, and was able to restore much of the Church's presence in France by the end of his life. Pius VII was a truly saintly man and navigated one of the most difficult periods of Church history with patience, faith and trust in God's Holy Will- this book is an inspiration!

The French Revolution had wrought religious and civil havoc in France and the Italian states. Thousands of French priests had been killed or deported; other priests and bishops were forming a schismatic national Church; the previous Pope had been kidnapped and had died in exile. Catholics were losing the Faith and adopting an attitude of resistance to all authority..This was the beginning of the reign of Pope Pius VII (1800-1823)--one of the most difficult and confusing eras in Catholic history. Impr. 240 pgs; PB

About the Author Professor Robin Anderson was born in 1913 at London to parents of Scottish and Irish descent. After receiving his education from Marlborough College and subsequently marrying Valeska Gert in 1936, he released his first short story a decade later through Horizon magazine. He subsequently converted to Catholicism through the influence of John Cardinal Henry Newman and Gerard Hopkins, and also became a fellow of the Institute of Linguists in 1961. Professor Anderson's works include *The Quiet Grave*, *Gleams of English-Language Literature*, and *Pope Pius VII*. The latter was published in 2001 by TAN.