



VATICAN SECRET ARCHIVE

# Processus contra Templarios



EXEMPLARIA PRÆTIOSA III

OFFICIAL LIMITED RUN

700 years after the Trial against the Knights Templar

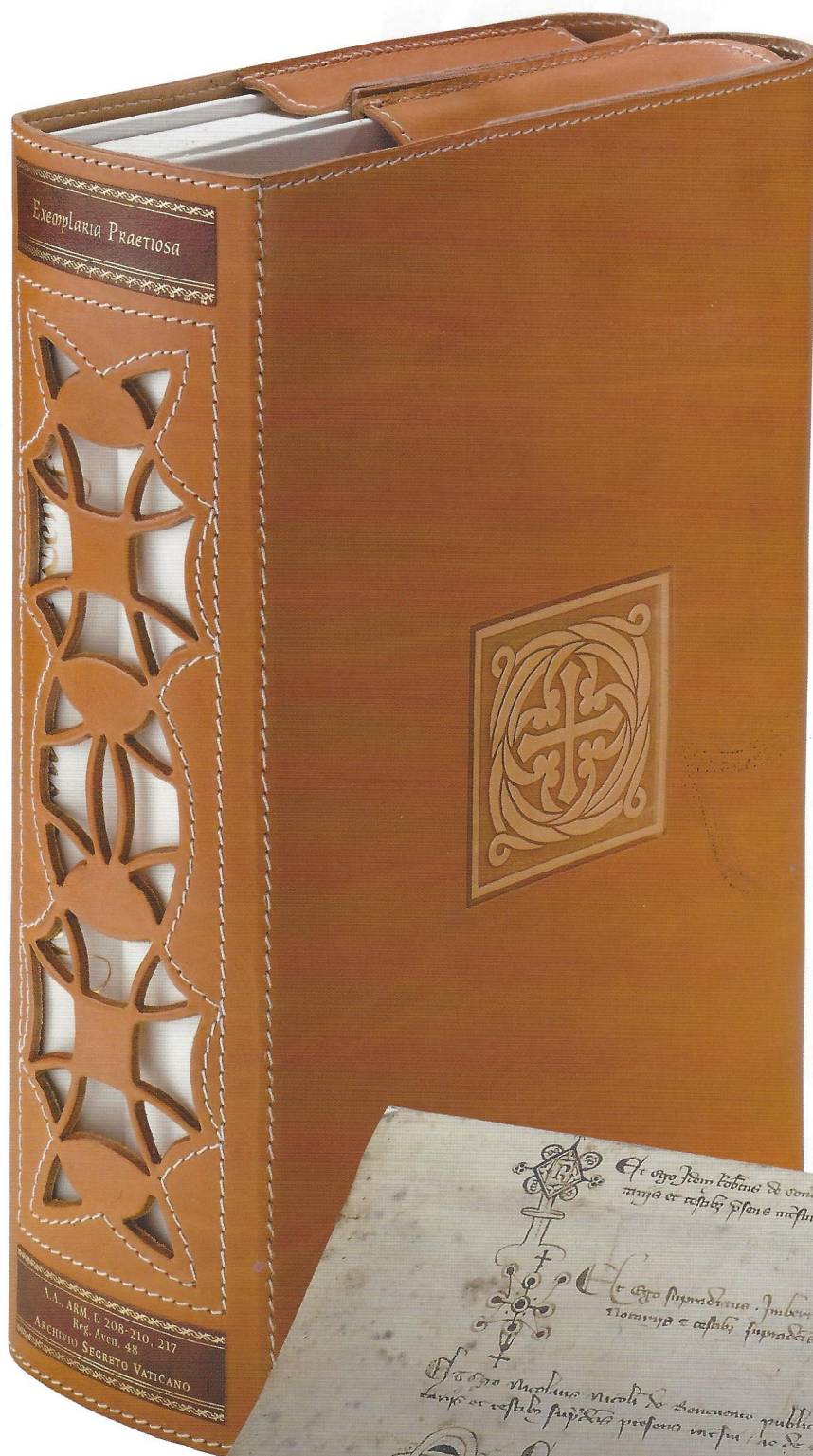




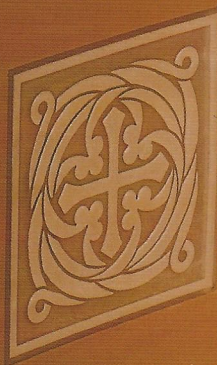
VATICAN SECRET ARCHIVE

# the OFFICIAL WORK

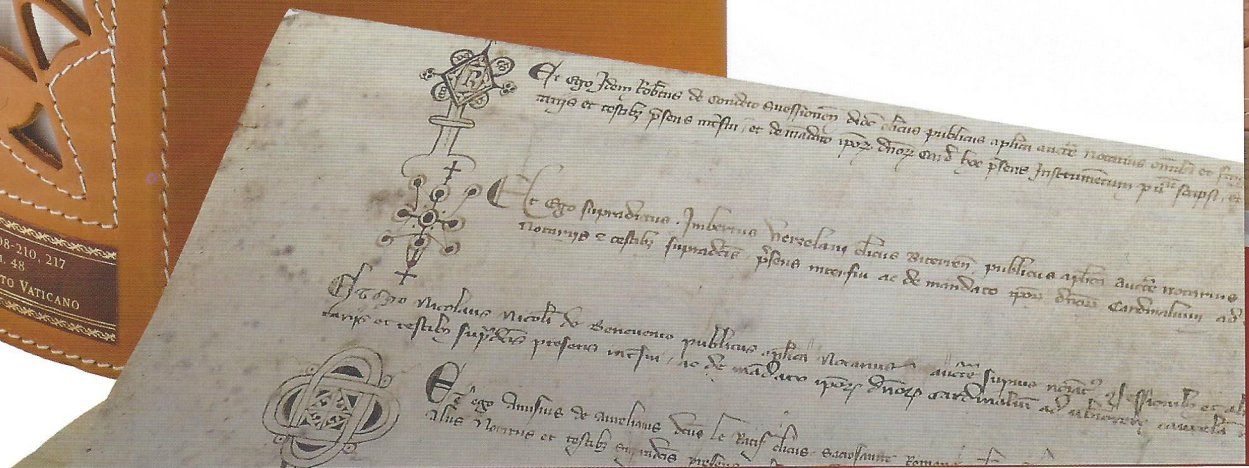
A Special Edition rigorously limited to  
799 tagged and certified items



Exemplaria Praetiosa



A.A. ARM. D. 208-210, 217  
Reg. Arch. 48  
ARCHIVIO SEGRETO VATICANO





# an UNPRECEDENTED WORK

From the Vatican Secret Archive documents and critical books

## The parchments

### From the Archivum Arcis, Armarium D208-209-210-217

6 meters of parchments record the trial acts, the auditions and confessions of the war monks: the key point of a complex episode, set within a thorny international intrigue, where politics and religion were intermingled, as well as money and faith. From the "Archivum Arcis" (or Arcis Archive), Armarium 217, the Chinon paper which sheds new light on the much debated Trial against the Knights Templar.

## Pope Clemens V private dossier, from the Avignon record 48

Clemens V private agenda was erroneously bound along with the the Avignon record 48 named to Pope Benedict XII (1334-1342): indeed, it accounts for the finds of the Poitiers papal enquiry and shows what the actual Clemens V viewpoint was with regard to the Knights Templar, thanks also to the countless margin notes, handwritten by the Pope himself, upon his sojourn at Malaucenne abbey, in 1311.

## The Seals of the inquiring Cardinals

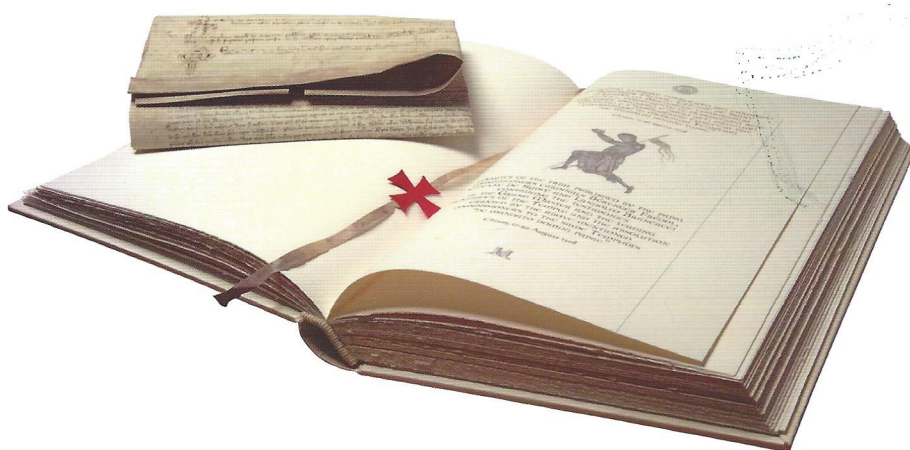
With regard to their richest and meaningful iconography, the red wax seals of the investigating cardinals Berenger Frédol, Pietro colonna, Pierre de la Chapelle do match their original counterparts. The seals are manufactured with respect to the ancient tradition, through moulds kept at the Vatican Secret Archive, and undergo a calibrated sequence of handcrafts as well as a complex and delicate polishing action, which actually has each individual seal look 700 years older.

## The Volume

### The First critical edition of the Knights Templar Trial from original papers

The volume comes in 29X45 cm size and is accomplished in compliance with the Art Edition standards. It contains rare drawings as well as three scores etched by Pietro Marchetti in 1840. Texts are printed in specially-manufactured cotton paper. Golden inscriptions are inserted on the front and back of an elegant goat-leather parchment binding.

A foreword note is personally addressed by Monsignor Sergio Pagano, the Vatican Secret Archive High Officer (Prefect). An historic note comes from Barbara Frale, Vatican Secret Archive Official. Document critical transcript by Marco Maiorino and Pierpaolo Piergentili, Vatican Secret Archive Officials.



# an OUTSTANDING PROJECT

*"The Church is yet at man's service as it hands him a significant part of his history".*  
Pope John Paul II

This statement, taken from his broad and heartfelt opening address, underlines John Paul II view that the Vatican Secret Archive is a "truthful instrument and source of government, right, history, in short, it aims at knowledge, humanity, and culture". It carries out its mandate in service to the Holy See, attaining a specific historic function, where the custody, care and research of an invaluable universal patrimony allow for posterity to inherit and access all that is most precious for mankind.

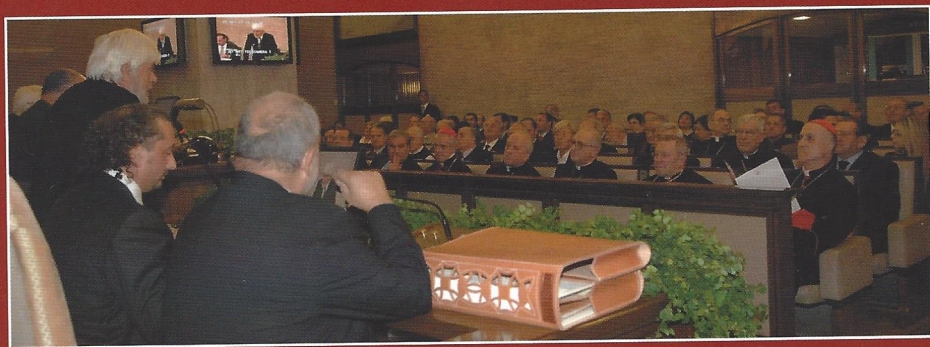


# HOSTED at the VATICAN

Old Synod Hall – October 25, 2007

World premiere of the work "Processus Contra Templarios", at the presence of the highest Vatican Authorities.

An internationally acclaimed event, which saw the attendance of the highest diplomats at the Holy See, prominent academics from Vatican, Italian and International Universities, as well as high dignitaries from the Italian military and the civil society.



VATICAN SECRETARIAT

Processus  
contra  
Templarios

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contra  
Templarios







# A WORLD EVENT

A few relevant media which covered this event

RET ARCHIVE

Processus  
contra  
Templarios

Reports from major national and international newspapers, among them:

Il Corriere della Sera, Il Messaggero, L'Avvenire, La Stampa, Il Giornale, Il Giorno, Il Resto del Carlino, Quotidiano Nazionale, L'Unità, il Sole 24 Ore, Il Secolo XIX.

New York Times, Washington Post, El Mundo, The Telegraph, The Times, Tagesspiegel, New Zealand Herald, The Independent, Correo do Perú, Prava, The Guardian, Mirror, Daily Mail, The Indian Express, The Moscow Times, Taipei Times, Bulgarian Post, Toronto Sun, The Indu, Kepaoe, China Time, The Australian, The Herald Tribune, The Los Angeles Times, Le Monde.

Italian magazines "Panorama" and "Focus" have dedicated resonant reports on this major event.

Televised reports broadcast by TG1, TG3, TG5, Studio Aperto.

BBC world, CNN, Discovery Channel, National Geographic Channel, France 2, The Associated Press Television, Telecinco, Televisa Mexico, TVE (Spanish Network), ABCnews.

Reuters International Press has conducted a thorough picture-set and TV report on this major event. This effort has made possible the establishment of a press review which counts, as of today, 10 volumes in most world languages.





# ABSOLUTE RARITY AND PRICELESSNESS

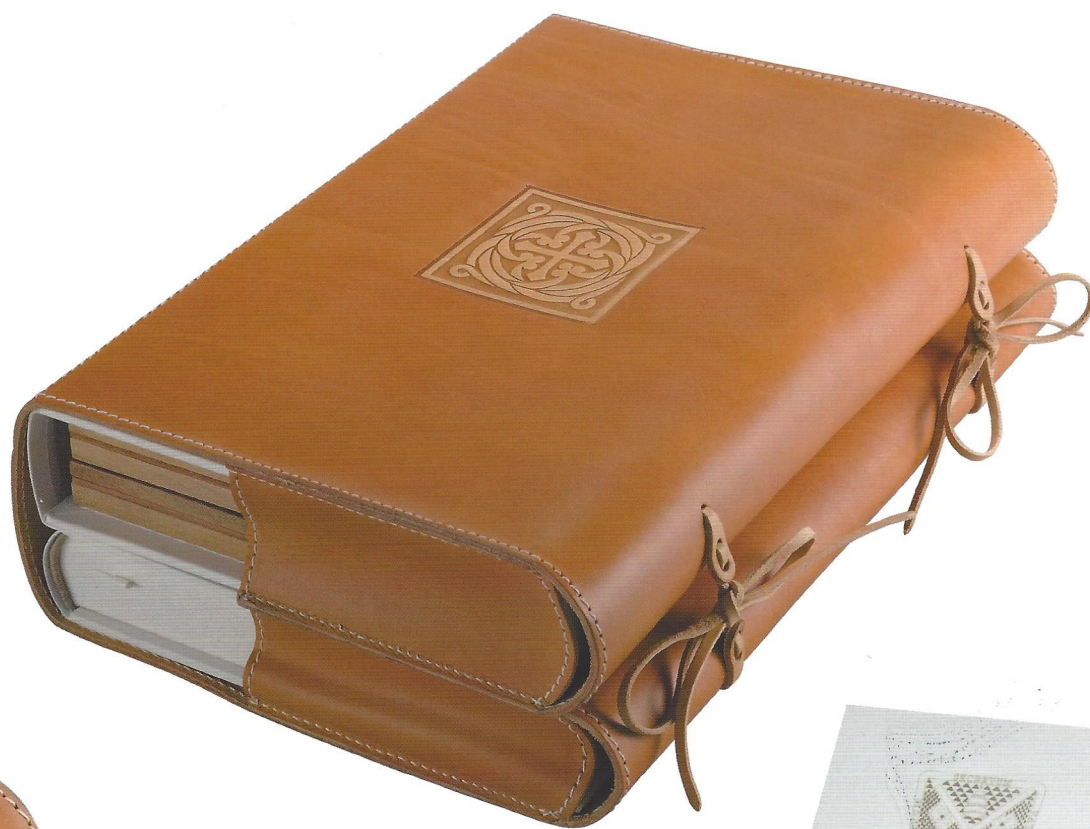
## A Timeless value

The materials are selected with regard to their durability, and range from a goat-leather treated parchment to a natural pieno fiore Tuscan leather, and on to the specially-handmade cotton paper as well as the dark-gold engravings. These materials are all old-fashioned and traditionally crafted, so that they take on fascinating colours and nuances as time goes by.

Inside the volume are the three magnificent and unpublished etchings dedicated to the Knights Templar: these have been carefully kept at the Vatican Apostolic Library until the present day, and are printed on specially-grained paper endorsed by the Vatican Secret Archive.

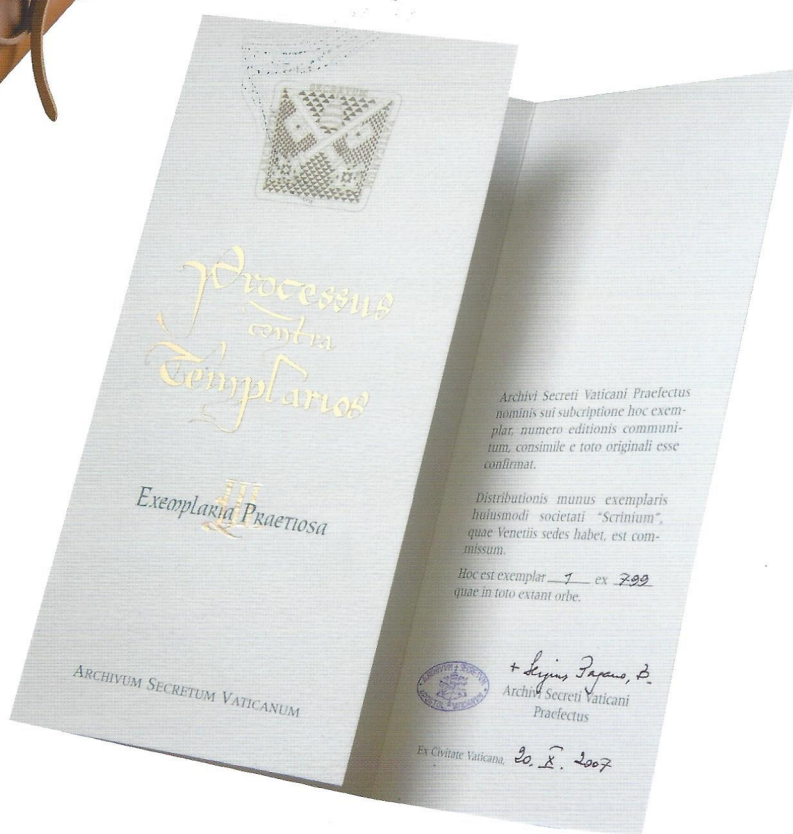
The grand documents, i.e., original parchments faithfully replicated and hand-sewn, show in their solemnity an unmatched appeal.

The special case, wherein both the parchment papers and the seals are located, finished to the smallest details, records the number and run of this outstanding "Exemplaria Praetiosa" article.



## AUTHENTICITY DOCUMENTATION

The official warranty certificate is endorsed and signed in person by the Vatican Secret Archive High Officer pro tempore (Prefect), who certifies the authenticity of each individual item of the Exemplaria Praetiosa, the limited run of the publication, the filing number, and the faithful, accurate compliance to the original documents.







# the ABSOLUTION of the KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

The Chinon paper sheds new historic light on the Trial against the Knights Templar

The Vatican Secret Archive has issued the original facsimile copies of the exclusive and previously unavailable hearing of the acts of the Poitiers Trial against the Knights Templar (June 28 through August 20, 1308). These acts are backed with an extraordinary transcription and a previously unpublished critical edition.

The ancient parchments, and among them the Chinon paper which includes the papal acquittal upon the accusations against the Knights Templar, the private agenda with notes likely written by pope Clemens V. The surviving acts of the pontiff inquiry, kept at the Vatican Secret Archive, show to what extent the pope himself aimed to save and preserve the existence of the Templar Order, assigning it a new role upon restoration of its habits and rules.

A thorough scientific investigation, which harbors the historic truth, and sheds light across seven centuries of inaccuracies and conjectures upon the fate of the "Poor Christ Knight Order".







## VATICAN SECRET ARCHIVE

### the HIGHEST VATICAN OFFICIALS

approve of the editorial releases "Exemplaria Praetiosa – Vatican Secret Archive".

Cardinal JEAN-LOUIS TAURAN

President of the Papal Council for the Inter-religious Dialogue

"I am glad that the Exemplaria Praetiosa got to this third issue, which so perfectly matches, if not surpasses, the scientific rigour and quality of the previous ones. Allow me to wish this precious edition of such rare papers, albeit under new scrutiny, a successful acknowledgement within the academic world and among the rarity and antiquity lovers.

Monsignor SERGIO PAGANO

Vatican Secret Archive High Officer (Prefect)

"It is a pleasure to acknowledge how the effort produced by the Vatican Secret Archive has allowed for a high level of editorial as well as scientific achievement, as is the case with this third issue of the "Exemplaria Praetiosa". What we have here are outstanding and faithful replicas of the original papers about the Trial against the Knights Templar, along with an accurate historic commentary and the first critical edition of the text, after the well-known albeit surpassed Schottmuller 1887 edition.

## EXEMPLARIA PRÆTIOSA

Official collection releases

The Exemplaria Praetiosa make up the foremost and priceless collection of the Vatican Secret Archive. Scrinium, the Vatican Secret Archive Trust company, has long been committed toward the dissemination and arrangement of all relevant cultural projects and events endeavoured by the authoritative Vatican Institution. It also proceeds to an orderly assignment of its precious releases, within selected locations and milieus.

*The high quality contents and the distinguished artistic appeal of these priceless releases are cured by Scrinium, with the purpose of offering exclusive and timeless items to the world. The Exemplaria Praetiosa are exclusively tendered to Scrinium Venice, so that its undisputed experience will allow for their consignment over to "elected owners", who unquestionably will manage to treasure them.*

Monsignor Sergio Pagano



## SCRINIUM®

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