CATHOLIC CHURCH. ARCHDIOCESE OF MAINZ (GERMANY). ARCHBISHOP (1515-1545: ALBERT).
Albertus Dei et Apostolice Sedis gratia Maguntinen[sis] [sic] et Magdeburgen[sis] Archiepiscop[us] ac Halberstaten[sis] ecclesiar[m] Administrator, Germanie Primas ... Indulgence, 1515

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Albertus Dei et Apostolice Sedis gratia Maguntinen[sis] [sic] et Magdeburgen[sis] Archiepiscop[us] ac Halberstaten[sis] ecclesiar[m] Administrator, Germanie Primas ... Indulgence, 1515
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 085
Extent: 1 item (30.2 cm x 20.2 cm)
Abstract: Indulgence for priests and other clergy issued at the instance of Johann Tetzel to support the rebuilding of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.
Language: Materials entirely in Latin.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
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Related Materials
Part of the Richard C. Kessler Reformation Collection of Pitts Theology Library.

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Indulgences were issued to defray the cost of building the basilica of St. Peter in Rome. Their distribution was often linked to the sacrament of penance, as believers were granted spiritual merits in exchange for financial donations. This particular indulgence, believed to be the only specimen of its kind thus far recovered, was issued specifically to clergy, granting them liturgical benefits in exchange for their contributions. The printing of this indulgence was probably ordered by Johann Tetzel himself and carried out by Melchior Lotter, the Elder, who was also to print an edition of Luther's ninety-five theses.

This is the only copy of this edition of this indulgence recovered. J. Tetzel was responsible for the printing of 11 indulgences, issued in 15 editions. This copy was found within a book binding dated 1530, serving as an end paper, by the German bibliographer and Reformation scholar Fritz Beyer in 1937.

References


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