

A few examples of Jewish praise of Pius XII



“With special gratitude we remember all he has done for the persecuted Jews during one of the darkest periods of their entire history.”

—Nahum Goldman,
President of the World Jewish Congress



“We share in the grief of humanity at the passing away of His Holiness Pope Pius XII. In a generation affected by wars and discords, he upheld the highest ideals of peace and compassion. When fearful martyrdom came to our people in the decade of Nazi terror, the voice of the Pope was raised for the victims. The life of our times was enriched by a voice speaking out on the great moral truths above the tumult of daily conflict. We mourn a great servant of peace.”

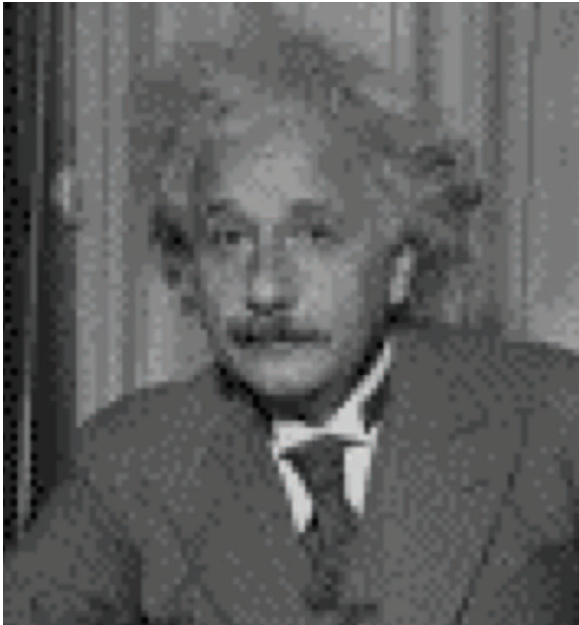
—Golda Meir October 9, 1958



“The people of Israel will never forget what his Holiness and his illustrious delegates... are doing for us unfortunate brothers and sisters in the most tragic hour of our history....”

—Chief Rabbi Herzog of Palestine
Father to the future President of Israel

A few examples of Jewish praise of Pius XII - continued



On December 23, 1940, Albert Einstein published the following in *Time*:

Being a lover of freedom, when the revolution came in Germany I looked to the universities to defend it, knowing that they had always boasted of their devotion to the case of truth; but no, the universities immediately were silenced. Then I looked to the great editors of the newspapers whose flaming editorials in days gone by had proclaimed their love of freedom. But they, like the universities, were silenced in a few short weeks. Only the Church stood squarely across the path of Hitler's campaign for suppressing truth. I never had any special interest in the Church before, but now I feel a great affection and admiration because the Church alone has had the courage and persistence to stand for intellectual truth and moral freedom. I am forced thus to confess, that what I once despised, I now praise unreservedly.

— Albert Einstein



“More than anyone else, we have had the opportunity to appreciate the great kindness, filled with compassion and magnanimity that the Pope displayed during the terrible years of persecution and terror”

—Elio Toaff, Chief Rabbi of Rome

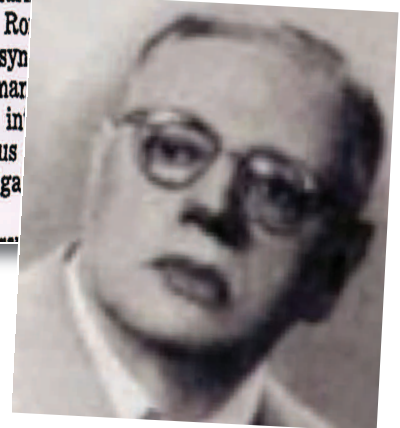
JEWES OF ROME THANK POPE FOR AIDING THEM

Chief Rabbi Says Pius and Vatican Saved Hundreds

By Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ROME, June 16—Chief Rabbi Anton Zolli of Rome expressed the Jews' gratitude to the Catholic Church and especially Pope Pius for the aid to Jews persecuted by Nazis and Fascists during the German occupation of Rome.

Speaking in his synagogue, the rabbi said that on many occasions the Pope personally intervened for the victims of Nazis, thus saving lives or getting mitigated penalties.



— Rabbi Zolli