

Construction of St Peter's Basilica
1506-1667
The Most Splendid Church
in Christendom



presented by

Dr. Teresa Tomory

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Teresa Tomory obtained an Honours BA in Fine Art, an MA and PhD in art history and archeology from the University of Toronto.

She is Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Chapter of the Patrons of the Arts in the Vatican Museums. She was one of the founding directors of Hawthorn School for Girls and served as its school head for 19 years.



She has a strong belief that knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of art and architecture, as a reflection of the human person and as a testimony to history, are part of an integral education. To reinforce this concept she has organized and led many trips to Italy. These trips foster an appreciation and love for the achievements of the human spirit and nourish a sense of stewardship for the preservation of the cultural heritage of mankind.

She is renowned for the enthusiasm and passion with which she communicates the glories and splendor of Roma Aeterna, the Eternal City.

Dr. Tomory is also a wife, the mother of seven children and proud grandmother of two.

The Presentation: Construction of the new St. Peter's Basilica took almost two centuries to complete. It employed some of the greatest artists of all time, Michelangelo, Raphael, Bramante and Bernini, in one of the most dynamic periods of Western Civilization.

Was the construction of the new Basilica of St. Peter an act of vandalism, a political statement, a monument for personal aggrandizement, an ignition spark for the Protestant Revolt, or a living testimony of faith?

Dr. Tomory will address this subject accompanied by illustrations in her presentation.