

*11 June 2007*

Mary Hollingsworth

**Electing the Court: Ceremony and Discomfort in Sixteenth-Century Papal Conclaves**

The 1559 conclave on the death of Paul IV lasted from 5 September to 25 December and was dominated by the struggle between the Spanish and French factions. One of Mary Hollingsworth's sources was the account books of the Cardinal Protector of France, Ippolito d'Este. He wore French clothes in Rome and drank French wine. Cubicles for each cardinal were created in the Sistine Chapel despite its small size. The papal Master of Ceremonies allocated them by lot. Cardinal Ippolito d'Este was in cell 35. Some cardinals filled their cells with their own furniture and tableware. This system lasted until 1978. The cardinals voted twice a day. Mark Blackett-Orde asked about the cardinals' plate, Bill Kuhn about the rationale for the cardinals' sequestration in the conclave, and Nigel Israel about the twelfth-century origin of the title of cardinal.