



# Priestblock 25487: A Memoir of Dachau

*Mr. Jean Bernard*

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## **Priestblock 25487: A Memoir of Dachau** Mr. Jean Bernard

In May 1941, Fr. Jean Bernard was arrested for denouncing the Nazis and imprisoned in Dachau's "Priest Block," a barracks that housed more than 3,000 clergy (the vast majority Roman Catholic priests).

*Priestblock 25487* tells the gripping true story of one remarkable priest's survival amid the inhuman brutality and torture of a Nazi concentration camp.

In 2004, this important book was made into the award-winning film *The Ninth Day*. Introduction by Robert Royal. Preface by Cardinal O'Malley of Boston.

## **Praise for *Priestblock 25487***

"Stunning... Casts light into dark and previously neglected corners of the horror that was the Third Reich."

–**Richard John Neuhaus**

"Fr. Jean Bernard's portrait of survival in a German concentration camp is simple, forceful and vivid and therefore impossible to put down or forget. *Priestblock 25487* is a diary of Catholic discipleship under extreme conditions that ranks with the great 20th Century personal testimonies against totalitarian violence."

–**Archbishop Chaput**

"Many hundreds of books have been written about German concentration and extermination camps. Of these, *Priestblock 25487* is among the very best. Every scholar and student of that dreadful chapter of 20th-century history ought to read and ponder its contents."

–**John Lukacs**, author *The Hitler of History*; and *Five Days in London: May 1940*

"From the opening scene in a Nazi interrogation room, *Priestblock 25487* moves with page-turning urgency as it brings to life a side of history that is too often forgotten. I highly recommend this powerful and inspiring book."

–**Thomas E. Woods**, author *How the Catholic Church Built Western Civilization*

"In its understated power, this brief book is unforgettable."

–**Michael Novak**

"Important... luminous... Moves the reader to compassion and insight."

–**Rachelle Linner**, Catholic News Service

"Deeply moving... The suffering of these priests for the sake of the loving God is one of the modern age's glorious mysteries."

–**Fr. George Rutler**

"I found this compelling book hard to stop reading."

–**Tim Johnson**, *Today's Catholic*

"Riveting... an important primary source for historians."

–**John Burger**, *National Catholic Register*

"Absorbing... Beautifully written."

–**Erin Ryan**, *National Catholic Reporter*

"A gripping story of heroism and horror that must never be forgotten."

–**First Things**

"Should be treated as a meditation, even something to be read again and again... So profound it deserves a wide readership."

–**Barbara Stinson Lee**, *Intermountain Catholic*

"A must-read for Catholics. Provides fresh anecdotal insight into the Vatican's battle against the Nazis... As this first-hand account shows in riveting detail, the mere rumor of clerical opposition on the outside sufficed to intensify suffering on the inside."

–**Daniel Cole**, *The Wanderer*

"A gripping testimony of the brutal treatment Catholic clergy received at the hands of the Nazis."

–**William Donohue**, President, Catholic League

"It is dramatic. It is brutally honest. I loved the book and could not put it down."

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"I began reading this book on Friday night and finished the 175 pages in three hours. It was a book I could not put down or stop reading."

–**Rev. Steve Wood**, St. John's Evangelical Church

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