

Basic Detail Report

Father Arrupe, general head of the Gesuits

Date

1969-1979

Medium

gelatin silver print

Description

Very Rev. Pedro Arrupe, S.J. (14 November 1907 – 5 February 1991) was a Spanish Jesuit priest who served as the twenty-eighth Superior General (1965–83) of the Society of Jesus, based in Rome. In the late 1960s and into the 1970s some Latin American theologians became increasingly involved in the political sphere, adopting Marxist positions. Many Jesuits in Latin America were at the forefront of this movement which was called liberation theology and concentrated on seeing Christ as the liberator, not only from sin, but from all forms of oppression. In its most extreme manifestations, liberation theology seemed to subordinate the message of the Gospel to political revolution, making the former simply a means to achieve the latter. Fr. Arrupe himself was even accused of leading the Jesuits astray. The controversy led to the condemnation in the 1980s of liberation theology by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (future Pope Benedict XVI), then Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Dimensions

Overall: 20.4 x 30.4 cm (8 x 12 in.)