POVERTY and LEADERSHIP in the LATER ROMAN EMPIRE

Peter Brown

THE MENAHEM STERN JERUSALEM LECTURES





PUBLISHED BY UNIVERSITY PRESS OF NEW ENGLAND
Hanover and London

Brandeis University Press/ Historical Society of Israel

Published by University Press of New England, Hanover, NH 03755

© 2002 by Historical Society of Israel

All rights reserved

Printed in the United States of America

5 4 3 2

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Brown, Peter Robert Lamont.

Poverty and leadership in the later Roman Empire / Peter Brown.

p. cm. —(The Menahem Stern Jerusalem lectures)

Includes bibliographical references.

ISBN 1-58465-145-8 (cloth: alk. paper)—ISBN 1-58465-146-6 (pbk.: alk. paper)

- 1. Rome—Politics and government—284-476. 2. Poor—Rome—History.
- 3. Church work with the poor—Rome—History. 4. Christianity and politics—Rome—History. 5. Church and state—Rome—History. I. Title. II. Series.

JC89 .B72 2001 937'.08'086942—dc21

2001002533

Contents

Foreword by Miriam Eliav-Feldon	vii
Preface	xi
1. "Lover of the Poor": The Creation of a Public Virtue	I
2. "Governor of the Poor": The Bishops and Their Citie	s 45
3. "Condescension": Poverty and Solidarity in the	
Eastern Empire	74
Notes	113
Index	147
Index of Authors	155