

The artworks





1. The Glory of Paradise

Francesco Maria Russo



On the ceiling of Sansevero Chapel you can see a very big fresco.

A fresco is a painting made on a wall.

Raimondo di Sangro asked the painter **Francesco Maria Russo** to paint this fresco a long time ago.

This fresco is called **The Glory of Paradise** because it shows you Paradise with many angels and **saints**.

A saint is a person who prays a lot and always behaves well.



When you look at the fresco,
it looks like the ceiling is open and you can see the sky and clouds.



There is a white dove in the middle of the clouds.
Many painters paint a dove in paintings of saints and angels.
It means that God is with the saints and angels.



Raimondo di Sangro made special paints
and gave them to the painter to make this fresco.
For example, you can see that:



- the saints from Raimondo's family
are painted in **green**



- some of the angels' clothes
are painted in **red**

The paints used to make paintings and frescoes a long time ago
were very easily damaged.

This makes it difficult to see them properly today.

But the paints Raimondo made are still beautiful
and still look good today.



2. Education

Francesco Queirolo



This statue is called **Education**.

Francesco Queirolo made it a long time ago.

Francesco Queirolo was a **sculptor**.

This statue is made of a stone called **marble** and is very big.



In this statue you can see a woman and a child with a book in his hands.

The woman is **educating** the child on how to behave.

Educate is another word for teaching.

The woman is like a teacher because she's teaching the child how to be good and kind.

The woman is seated and turning towards the child.

You can see her in **profile**.

A person or an animal is in profile when you only see half the face.

The woman is touching the child with her left arm and raising her right arm.

The woman has a long dress with lots of folds and a ribbon in her hair.



The child is standing near the woman.

The child has:

- long hair
- clothes
- a cloak
- a pair of boots.

The child is holding an open book.

We can see

how clever Francesco Queirolo was because the book looks real.



People spoke Latin a very long time ago.

Latin is a very old way of talking and is not spoken any more.

These words mean that you must study and make a big effort to become good and kind.

Learning and making an effort is a virtue.





At the top, you can see the **portraits** of 2 women.

A portrait is a statue or a painting that shows the face and the chest of a person.

The women are 2 important people from Raimondo di Sangro's family.



3. Self-control

Francesco Celebrano



This statue is called **Self-control**.

Francesco Celebrano made this statue a long time ago.

Francesco Celebrano was a sculptor.

The statue is made of a stone called marble.

A person has self-control when they:

- know how to behave
- can control emotions like anger and happiness
- think a lot before doing something important.

Being able to control our behaviour is a virtue.





In this statue you can see a very strong **warrior**.

A warrior was a person who went to war, as soldiers do today.

This warrior has:

- a helmet.
A helmet is like an iron hat that protect the head in wars
- clothes
- a cloak
- a pair of sandals.

The warrior is holding a chain attached to a lion.

A lion is a very strong and scary animal.

Here you see the lion's profile.

If you see the profile of a person or animal, you only see half the face.

The lion is quiet and looking at the warrior.

The warrior has been stronger than the lion and has managed to keep it still and calm beside him.





Near the warrior you can see a a portrait of a woman.

A portrait is a statue or painting that shows the face and chest of a person.

Here you see the woman's profile.

The woman has curly hair and is very elegant.

The woman is Raimondo di Sangro's grandmother.

Raimondo di Sangro wanted this statue as a way to remembering his grandmother.

Above and beside his grandmother's portrait are 2 angels with wings.



4. Modesty

Antonio Corradini



This statue is called
Modesty.

Modesty is a virtue.



Antonio Corradini
made this statue
a long time ago.
Antonio Corradini
was a sculptor.

This statue is made of marble.

A person is a modest when they hide their body
so that people can't see they're naked.

A modest person is also shy.

When you tell a modest person they're beautiful, they blush.



The statue shows you a woman all covered with a sheet.

The sheet is made of marble too.

This woman is **Cecilia**,
Raimondo di Sangro's mother.

Cecilia died when Raimondo
was a child.

Cecilia is covered with a sheet
because she was a modest woman
and didn't want anybody
to see her naked.

On the sheet that covers Cecilia
are flowers.



Cecilia is turning her head.

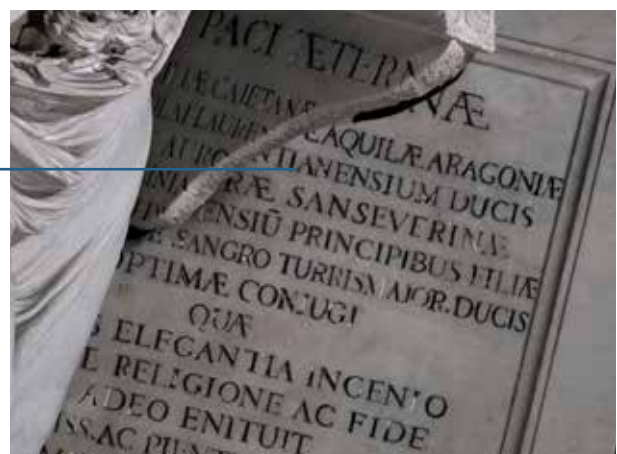


Behind Cecilia is a **tombstone**.

A tombstone is a piece of stone
that's put on the tomb
of a person who has died.

The things written on a tombstone
remember the dead person.

The words on Cecilia's tombstone
tell you that she was a good
and kind mother.





Antonio Corradini made the tombstone look broken to help you understand that Cecilia had died and that she wasn't with her son anymore.

Raimondo di Sangro wanted this statue because he loved his mother and wanted to remember her.



Under the statue is Jesus with his friend Mary Magdalene.

Mary Magdalene wants to touch Jesus.

Mary Magdalene can't touch Jesus because he has died and **resurrected**.

Resurrect means that he is not dead anymore and his friends can see him.



5. Deposition

Francesco Celebrano





This group of statues is called **Deposition**.

Francesco Celebrano made this group of statues a long time ago.

Francesco Celebrano was a sculptor.

The deposition is the moment when Jesus' friends take his body down from the cross.

These statues are made of a stone called marble.

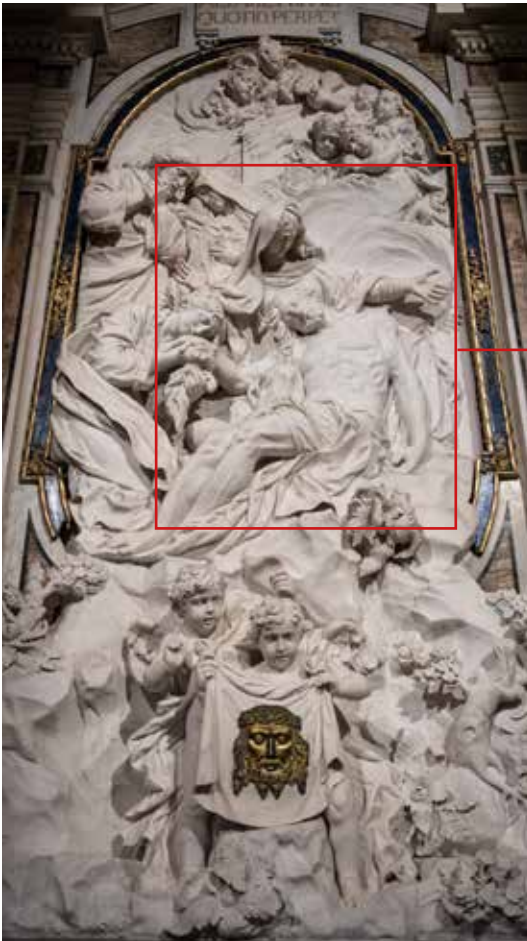
This group of statues is on the **high altar**.

An altar is a table that priests use to say mass.

In a church there are often many altars.

The high altar is the most important altar in a church.





**In the centre of the Deposition,
you see Jesus dead with the Virgin Mary.**

The Virgin Mary is Jesus' mother.

The Virgin Mary is holding Jesus
on her knees and her arms are opened.

The Virgin Mary is looking at Jesus.

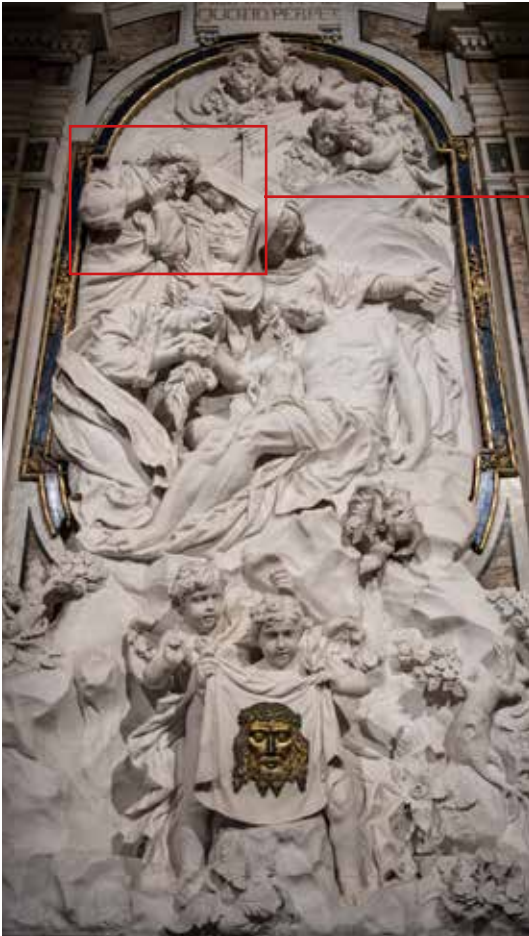
To the left of Jesus

you see Mary Magdalene.

Mary Magdalene was one of Jesus' friends.

Mary Magdalene is holding Jesus' hand near her face.





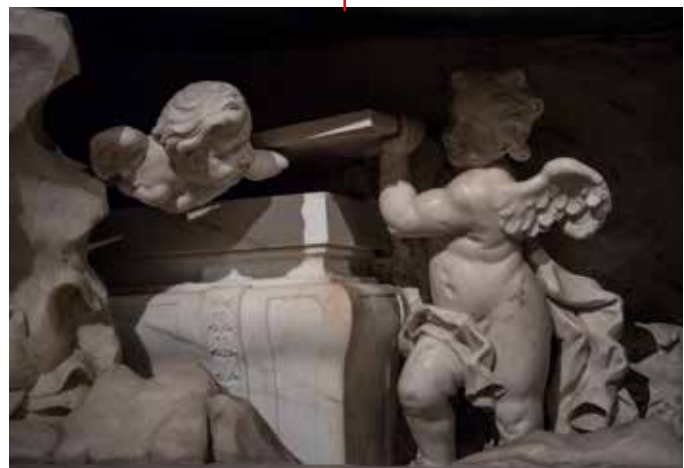
Above Mary Magdalene is Saint John with his hands held together.

Saint John was one of Jesus' friends.

Next to him is **another woman**.

This woman is the Virgin Mary's cousin and her name is Mary.

All these people love Jesus and are sad because he's dead.



Beneath Jesus are 2 little angels holding a sheet.

On the sheet you can see Jesus' face. The drawing is made of a golden metal.

Under the altar, you can see two little angels near Jesus' tomb.

One of them is opening the tomb and looking inside, but the **tomb** is empty.

A tomb is where a person is put after they have died.



6. The Veiled Christ

Giuseppe Sanmartino



This statue is called **The Veiled Christ**.

Christ is another name for Jesus.

Giuseppe Sanmartino made this statue a long time ago.

Giuseppe Sanmartino was a sculptor.

This statue is made of marble.

This statue is in the centre of the room

because it's the most important and most beautiful statue.

The statue shows you **Christ dead**. He is lying on a **mattress** with **2 pillows**.

Christ's body is very thin and covered with a **sheet**.

The sheet is also made of marble.

You can see Christ's entire body under the sheet very well.



Giuseppe Sanmartino was very clever because he made Christ look like a real person and the sheet seems real too.

This statue is so well made that people come from all over the world to see it.

Giuseppe Sanmartino made the Veiled Christ very fast: it only took him three and a half months to finish it.

You can walk around it to see it properly.

You can't get too close to it.

Under the marble sheet you can see:

Christ's face.

You can see:

- his closed eyes
- his nose
- his mouth



Christ's hands.

On his hands you can see the signs left by the nails used to put him on the cross



Christ's feet.

On his feet too you can see the signs left by the nails used to put him on the cross.





Near Jesus' feet are the **nails** used to put him on the cross and the **pliers** used to remove them.



Near the nails you can see the **crown** made of a branch with thorns. Jesus wore this crown when he was on the cross.



If you walk around the statue, you can see the name of Giuseppe Sanmartino and the year he made the statue. These things are written in Latin.



7. Disillusionment Francesco Queirolo



This statue is called **Disillusionment**.

Disillusionment is a virtue.





People sometimes have bad ideas or do wrong things.
Disillusionment is when they understand they were wrong
and want to do good things.

Francesco Queirolo made this statue a long time ago.

Francesco Queirolo was a sculptor.

Raimondo di Sangro wanted this statue
as a way of remembering his father **Antonio**.

This statue is made of a stone called marble.

This statue shows you **Antonio covered with a net**.

The net is also made of marble.

Francesco Queirolo was very clever
because he made the net seem real.

Antonio is covered with the net.

When you keep on doing bad things, it's like a net is tying you down
and you can't move anymore or do the right thing.

Antonio has understood that he has done something wrong
and is trying to take the net off his head with his arm.

Antonio wants to take the net off to start doing good things.



Antonio is looking at an **angel** to the left.

The angel is helping him take off the net.

The angel has got a long cloak, and there's a ball and an open book near his feet.

This ball is the Earth.

This book is the Bible.

The Bible is the most important book for the Church because it tells the story of God and Jesus.

Francesco Queirolo sculpted the Bible to make you think about the important things Antonio wants to learn to become a good person.

The angel is helping Antonio become a good person.



Beneath the statue
you can see **Jesus**
touching a man's eyes
with 2 fingers.
The man cannot see anymore
and asks Jesus
to help him see again.
Jesus puts his fingers
on the man's eyes and heals him.
This means Jesus
has made a **miracle**.
A miracle is a beautiful thing
that happens when God or saints help someone.



When Antonio takes the net off,
he's very happy
and his life is better.



When the man can see again,
he's very happy.



8. Monument to Cecco di Sangro Francesco Celebrano



This statue is a **Monument to Cecco di Sangro**.

A monument is a big statue made to remember an important person.

This statue is made of a stone called marble.

Francesco Celebrano made this statue a long time ago.

Francesco Celebrano was a sculptor.

Francesco Celebrano made this statue to remember Cecco di Sangro.

Cecco di Sangro belonged to Raimondo di Sangro's family.

Cecco di Sangro was a warrior.

A warrior was a person who went to war, as soldiers do today.



This statue shows you Cecco di Sangro getting out of a tomb. Cecco di Sangro hid in a tomb during a war so that his enemies would not find him. Cecco di Sangro got out of the tomb without anyone seeing him and he won the war.



Cecco di Sangro has got:

- long moustache
- a helmet
- **an armour**

An armour is an iron suit used to protect the body during a war.

- a sword.



Beneath Cecco di Sangro you can see a lot of writing that tells you his story.

Under the tomb are 2 **hippogryphs**.

A hippogryph is an animal from the imagination, so it doesn't really exist.

The 2 hippogryphs are keeping watch to make sure that no enemies get close.



Above Cecco di Sangro you can see an **eagle**.

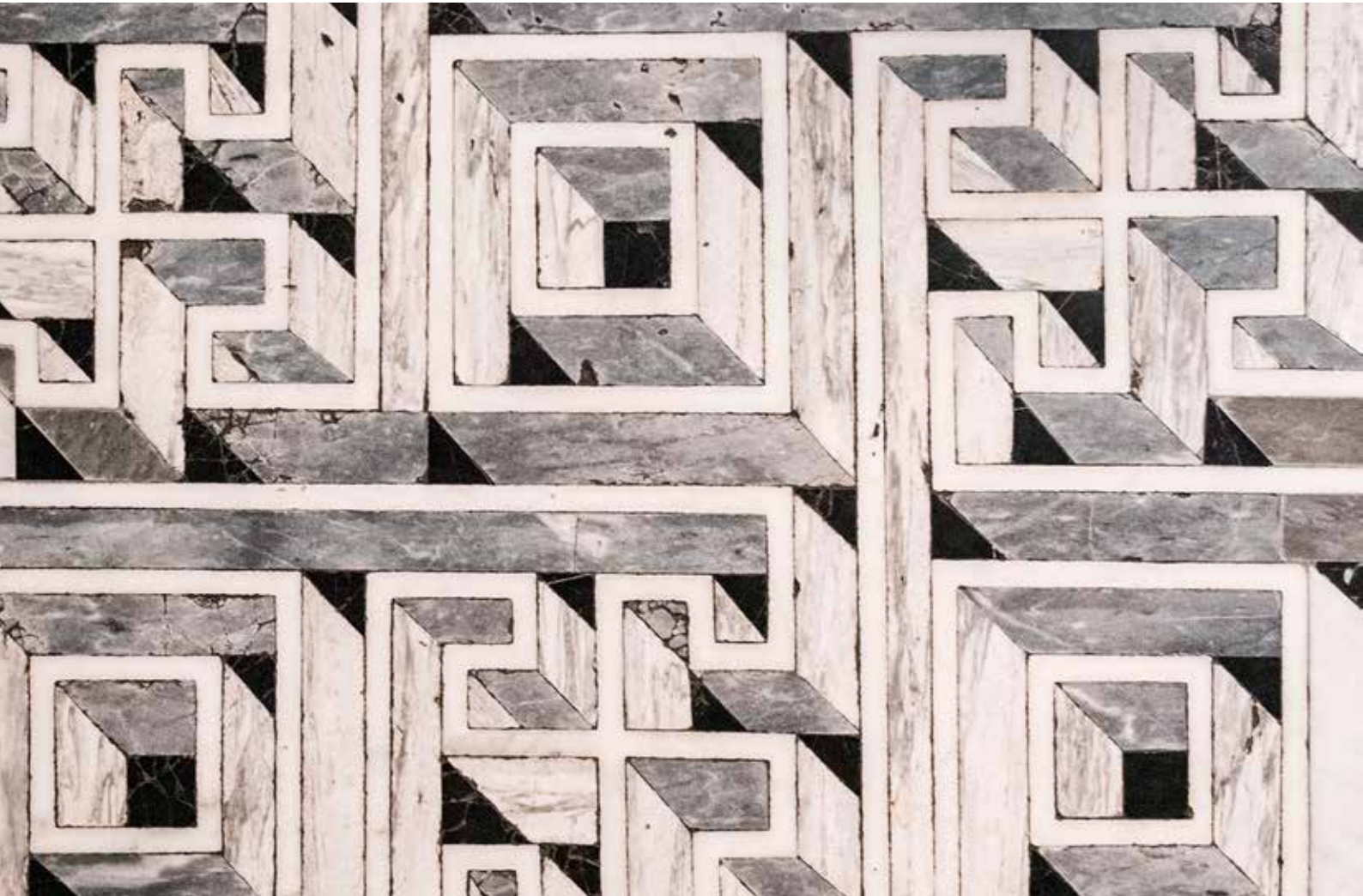
An eagle is a very big and strong bird.

Francesco Celebrano added the eagle to let you know that Cecco di Sangro was very brave.





9. Floor with labyrinth design Francesco Celebrano



A long time ago Sansevero Chapel had a floor made of a stone called marble. Raimondo di Sangro asked **Francesco Celebrano** to make that floor. Francesco Celebrano was a sculptor.



The drawing of the floor was like a labyrinth.

A labyrinth is a place where there are many paths to choose from, and high walls.



When you're inside a labyrinth, it's difficult to find the exit because some paths are blocked.

When you come to a path that's blocked, you have to go back and try another path.

Raimondo di Sangro chose this design to help you understand that becoming good and kind is as difficult as finding your way out of a labyrinth.

The floor was made with marble pieces in many colours:

- white
- black
- grey.

Marble comes in many colours.

Making a floor with this drawing was very difficult.

Francesco Celebrano showed that he was very good at making this floor.

After some time, one part of Sansevero Chapel collapsed and the labyrinth floor broke.

So, the di Sangro family decided to make a new floor using brown tiles. These tiles are called cotto.

Today you can only see some parts of the labyrinth drawing on the floor.



10. Portrait of Raimondo di Sangro Francesco De Mura



This is a portrait of Raimondo di Sangro.

Francesco De Mura made this portrait a very long time ago.

Francesco De Mura was a painter.

Raimondo di Sangro was a prince.



This painting shows you Raimondo di Sangro dressed as a **warrior** because he had been to war.

A warrior was a person who went to war, as soldiers do today.

Raimondo di Sangro is wearing a long, white and curly wig.



He's dressed in:

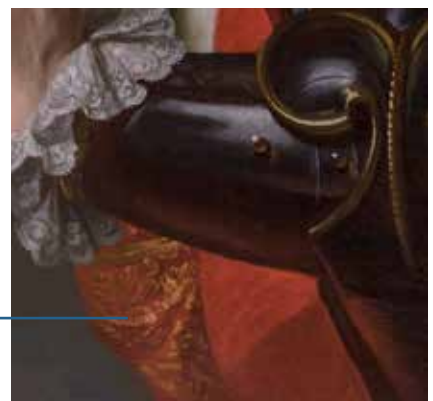
- black **armour**.

An armour is an iron suit that protects the body during wars.

On the armour you can see a golden lion



- a long red cloak.



Raimondo di Sangro is very elegant in his armour and cloak.