

San Michele a Ripa



Church dedicated to St Michael the Archangel.

History

The church forms part of the complex of the Ospizio Apostolico, built in the late 17th century. Msgr. Tommaso Odeschalci, nephew of Pope Innocent XI, founded it the hospice to aid poor youths and abandoned children. It was designed by Mattia de Rossi.

It is also known by its older name, S. Salvatore degli Invalide.

In 1693, Pope Innocent XII commissioned Carlo Fontana to enlarge the church and institution. Clement XII hired Ferdinando Fuga to continue Fontana's work, and to further expand the institution. The church was completed in its present state by Luigi Poletti in the early 19th century.

Today, the complex houses the Ministry of Cultural Assets and the Environment. After being abandoned for a period, it has been restored. It is served by diocesan clergy.

It should not be confused with Santa Maria del Buon Viaggio, which is a church of older origins swallowed up by the hospice. This is further to the south-east.

Exterior

The church is part of the building complex, and is invisible from the street. However, you can see the bellcote and the roof from the viewpoint on the Aventine just east of Santa Sabina.

Interior

In Fontana's original plans for the enlarged church, it was to have a Greek cross plan. The project was modified to a Latin cross plan.

The ceiling has square fields with stucco decorations.

In one of the arms of the transept, there is an aedicula carried by Corinthian columns, with a statue of the *Saviour* by [Adamo Tadolini](#). To the sides are statues of Sts Peter and Paul.

There are five side altars, with copies of famous works of art, such as a copy of [Raphael's Transfiguration](#).

In the church is the funeral monument for Cardinal Tosti (c. 1866), sculpted by [Alessandro Ceccarini](#).

Special notes

The feast of the Archangels is celebrated on 29 September.

As the church is part of the Ministry building, access may be restricted at times due to security issues.

Burials:

Antonio Cardinal [TOSTI](#), (1776-1866)

Artists and Architects:

Adamo [Tadolini](#) (1727-1813), Italian sculptor
 Alessandro [Ceccarini](#) (1825-1905), Italian sculptor
 Carlo [Fontana](#) (d. 1714), Italian architect of the Late Baroque period
 Ferdinando [Fuga](#) (1699-1781), Italian architect in the Baroque style
 Luigi [Poletti](#) (1792-1869), Italian neoclassical architect
 Mattia [de Rossi](#) (1637-1695), Italian architect of the Baroque period

Location

Addr: Porto di Ripa Grande 8, 00153 Roma
 Coord: [41° 53' 8.2" N, 12° 28' 34.9" E](#)

Info

Tel. 06 68 96 626

Links

http://romanchurches.wikia.com/wiki/San_Michele_a_Ripa

http://www.vicariatusurbis.org/?page_id=188&ID=831

[http://www.romeartlover.it/Vasi97.htm#Ospizio di S. Michele](http://www.romeartlover.it/Vasi97.htm#Ospizio_di_S._Michele)

Refs

Donovan, Jeremiah; ROME ANCIENT AND MODERN AND ITS ENVIRONS; 1842