

## **San Sudario dei Piemontesi Santissimo Sudario all'Argentina**



**Santissimo Sudario di Nostro Signore Gesù Cristo (Church of the Holy Shroud of Our Lord Jesus Christ)** is the regional church in Rome for the Piedmontese in the rione Sant'Eustachio.

### **History**

In medieval times this church was dedicated to St Louis, King of France, until its rebuilding in 1605, by the Savoyard Confraternity of the Holy Shroud, dedicated to the Holy Shroud of Turin, who had acquired the church as a headquarters and who gave it their own dedication. The architect was Carlo di Castellamonte. (1) (2)

Back then, the Grand Duchy of Savoy included territory on both side of the Alps, with the name coming from what is now French Savoy and the economic base being in what is now Piedmont. This later evolved into the Kingdom of Sardinia, with its capital at Turin, and then became the Kingdom of Italy. So, the church was in turn used by expatriates of the Grand Duchy and the Kingdom of Sicily, and was only downgraded from an national to a regional church after the unification of Italy. (1)

**Carlo Rainaldi** was employed to restore the church in the Baroque style in 1678, but it was desecrated during the Napoleonic French occupation, and used as a warehouse and stables. It was re-consecrated in 1856. The church was restored by Giacomo Monaldi in 1871. (1) (2) (4)

### Exterior

It is difficult to view the stone exterior owing to the narrowness of the street. (1)

The doorway has a segmented pediment but no other decoration, and is flanked by a pair of double rectangular Corinthian pilasters. Either side of the main door on the other side of the double pilasters is a smaller door, above which in turn is a niche with a triangular pedimental canopy and then a rectangular window. The outer edges of this first storey of the façade are occupied by another pair of identical pilasters. These six pilasters support a wide entablature dividing the storeys, but unusually a pair of horizontally rectangular windows is cut into this above the pair of main windows below. The ends of the entablature bear the two halves of a broken and well-separated segmental pediment. (1)

The second storey, narrower than the first (squeezed by domestic buildings on either side) has a double pair of Ionic pilasters either side of a very large rectangular window and supporting a broken pediment missing its cornice above the window and with its point set back. The window has its own pair of small pilasters and entablature. The pediment contains the arms of the House of Savoy. (1)

### Interior

The interior contains statues of five saints and beati descending from the royal House of Savoy, by **Cesare Maccari**. Above the altar is a stucco relief of *Glory of Angels with the Eternal Father*, this being by **Antonio Raggi**. (1)

The great altar is adorned with four pilasters and four columns, incrusting with Sicilian jasper. The altarpiece is *The miracle of Holy Shroud & Christ lying on Shroud with Donors from House of Savoy and Sts. Massimo & Maurizio, Blessed Amedeo, Margherita & Ludovica*, from 1682 by Tatoti (Antonio Gherardi). Above the altar is a stucco relief of *Glory of Angels with the Eternal Father*, this being by **Antonio Raggi**. (1) (2) (a)

Over the first altar to the right is a painting of *Saint Francis of Sales in Ecstasy*, by Carlo Cesi. (a)

The altarpiece of the altar on the left is a painting of *Blessed Amedeo kneeling in front of the Virgin*, commissioned on the occasion of the beatification cause of Amadeus IX of Savoy, from 1667 by **Giovan Domenico Cerrini**. (1) (2) (a)

There is a life-size reproduction of the original Holy Shroud, by [Maria Francesca di Savoia](#), which was presented to Clement VIII. by Card. Paleotti, archbishop of Bologna. (1) (a)

The four small paintings under the cornice, relating to the Passion, are by **Lazzaro Baldi**. (a)

**Artists and Architects:**

Antonio [Gherardi](#) (1638-1702), Italian painter, architect, and sculptor (stuccoist) of the Baroque style

Antonio [Raggi](#) aka [*Il Lombardo*] (1624-1686), Italian sculptor of the Baroque

Carlo [Cesio](#) or Cesi (1622-1682), Italian painter and engraver of the Roman school.

Carlo [di Castellamonte](#) (1560–1641), Italian architect

Carlo [Rainaldi](#) (1611-1691), Italian architect of the Baroque period

Cesare [Maccari](#) (1840-1919), Italian painter and **sculptor**

Giacomo Monaldi (1819-1905), Italian architect

Giovanni Domenico [Cerrini](#) aka *il Cavalier Perugino* (1609-1681), Italian painter of the Baroque period

Lazzaro [Baldi](#) (1624-1703), Italian painter of the Baroque period

**Location:**

75 Via Monterone, 00186 Rome, Italy

Via del Sudario, 47

Coordinates: [41° 53' 48.5"N 12° 28' 32.1"E](#)

**Info:**

Telephone: 0039 06 6792391

Fax: 0039 06 484612

Opening times

Thursday 08:15pm-10:00pm

Sunday 08:15pm-09:30pm

Masses:

Holidays: 08:00pm

**Links:**

1. [http://romanchurches.wikia.com/wiki/Santissimo\\_Sudario\\_di\\_Nostro\\_Signore\\_Ges%C3%B9\\_Cristo](http://romanchurches.wikia.com/wiki/Santissimo_Sudario_di_Nostro_Signore_Ges%C3%B9_Cristo)

2. [http://www.info.roma.it/monumenti\\_dettaglio.asp?ID\\_schede=135](http://www.info.roma.it/monumenti_dettaglio.asp?ID_schede=135)

3. <http://www.060608.it/en/cultura-e-svago/luoghi-di-culto-di-interesse-storico-artistico/chiese-cattoliche/ss-sudario.html>

4. [http://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=it&u=http://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chiesa\\_del\\_Santissimo\\_Sudario\\_dei\\_Piemontesi](http://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=it&u=http://it.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chiesa_del_Santissimo_Sudario_dei_Piemontesi)

a. Donovan, Jeremiah; ROME ANCIENT AND MODERN AND ITS ENVIRONS; 1842; pg. V2:244