

Hall of Vestments (SALE of Vestments)

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On the first floor of the Vatican Palace, the two rooms of the so-called vestments are part of the east wing added by Nicholas III (1277-80) the old building of Innocent III (1198-1216), communicating with the Hall of the Popes' Borgia Apartment (v.) to the north, the first Lodge of St. Damasus to the east and the great Sala Ducale (v.) to the west. They have always kept the original name comes from the fact that they were both dedicated to the dressing of the cardinal and the first Pope to that of the second, during the great features that were celebrated in St. Peter, where they went, then moving from there in procession. The first of these halls of vestments, also known as "the Parrot" (perhaps because of the recurring figure of the bird in the decoration), the Supreme Pontiff in the past used to hold secret consistories exceptionally well, and is usually still necessary to proceed in Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent), the blessing of the Golden Rose (see).

Undertaken at the time of Pius IV, which is due so the rich wooden ceiling carved, gilded and painted (1563), the work of pictorial decoration of these rooms were resumed under his successor Pius V (1566-72) and brought out during Pope Gregory XIII, as the inscription GREGORIVS. P. MAX. AVLAM. HANC. DECORARI. PICTVRISQ. EXORNARI. IVSSIT. AN. D. MDLXXVII, which runs around the center of the octagon ceiling of the room first, containing the arms of Pius IV Medici. To Lorenzo Sabbatini (d. August 2, 1576) distinction should be in all probability the design of the decorative scheme of the rooms, whose performance expectations then his son Mario in collaboration with the painter Marco da Faenza, Giovanni Battista della Marca (Lombardelli) and Paris Nogari, however, rather difficult to distinguish one succeeding the other hand, so also can not exclude the participation of other painters of the dense crowd of artists employed by Gregory XIII.

The frieze of painted vestments of the first room presents scenes derived from "Acts of the Apostles", such as The Martyrdom of St. Stephen (7, 55-60), The baptism of the Ethiopian eunuch (8, 26-40), The Resurrection of Tabitha (9, 36-41), The Stoning of St. Paul (14, 19-20), in the frieze of the second room are the episodes of Moses in prayer before the tabernacle of Moses and Aaron, and that consecrate the Levites, and stories relating to the Prince of the Apostles, as Peter's speech in Jerusalem, and the establishment of the first seven deacons. In both the Sale of vestments are now also exposed some pictures of the "Collection of Modern Religious Art" (see), inaugurated by Paul VI in 1973.

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