



The crypt

The San Sossio's crypt, now transformed into the Sansossian Museum of Sacred Art, is located below the church along the entire length of the central nave.

It hosts the decorations of the Basilica before the 1945 fire: stone fragments of the three eighteenth-century altars, tombstones and inscriptions that witness to the long history of the building.

The Sansossian Art Gallery

The Art Gallery is in the rooms on the right side of the Basilica and houses silver, canvases and painted panels from the 15th to the 18th century.



The bronze doors

Eduardo Filippo is the artist who realized of the new bronze doors.


The reliefs of the Main Portal illustrate key moments of San Sossio's life, in a succession of 10 sections.


The two lateral portals are dedicated to St Severino (left door) and St Giuliana (right door), and use a more basic and simpler style than the Main Portal.



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**THE PONTIFICAL
BASILICA**

San Sossio



Liceo Scientifico e
Linguistico Statale
"Carlo Miranda"



Introduction to the Basilica

The church of S. Sossio is the main artistic attraction in Frattamaggiore, formerly known as 'Santa Maria degli Angeli and San Sossio'.



The complex is the result of several transformations and expansions implemented over the centuries.

Its original plant dates back to the tenth century, than redesigned at the end of the fourteenth century and later in the sixteenth century, when the church was rebuilt with three naves and the addition of the transept.

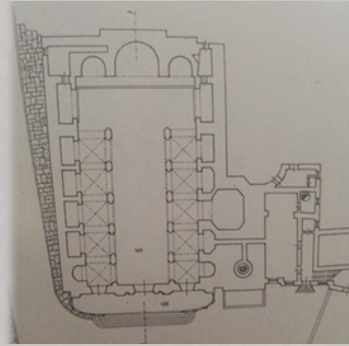
During the eighteenth century the building underwent a restoration and a general modernisation in Baroque style.

Before the entrance there are piperno stone steps leading to the complex.

The façade is divided horizontally into two registers and vertically into three sections. The upper register has a large central window and two side niches containing the statues of the Patron Saint of Frattamaggiore: St Sossio and St Giulian.

The apex of the façade is in Baroque style.

The interior and the apse



The church of S. Sossio is designed by basilica plan with the addition of a transept, covered with wooden trusses from the fourteenth century. The space is divided into a central nave and two side aisles with five chapels on each side. The stone piperno semi-columns on the sides support arches in full sect.

At the end of the nave there is a majestic mosaic which decorates the apse, preceded by a triumphal arch in full-sect, where a Crucifix hangs. The apse mosaic represents the "Glory of the Virgin": the Virgin Mary is represented with the child in an almond light, surrounded by six angels. By her sides are depicted St Julian and St Nicholas of Bari, and below are represented St Sossio and St John the Baptist in a kneeling position.



The baptismal font



In the first chapel on the left you can admire the Baptismal Font built in the 15th century.

In the background, a canvas with the Baptism of Christ contributes to the development of the theme of Baptism.

The Major Chapel

In the third chapel in the right nave there is the Major Chapel dedicated to Saint Sossio (richly decorated by golden stuccos, silver lanterns, precious marbles), where the relics of St Sossio and St Severino are buried.

On the side walls there are two paintings by Francesco Saverio Altamura dedicated to the two Saints: the one on the left depicts the "Meeting of San Sossio and San Gennaro", the one on the right depicts "San Severino on the banks of the Danube" while receiving the relics of St John the Baptist.

On the main altar there is a canvas painted by Federico Maldarelli that depicts "The Burial of San Sossio".

