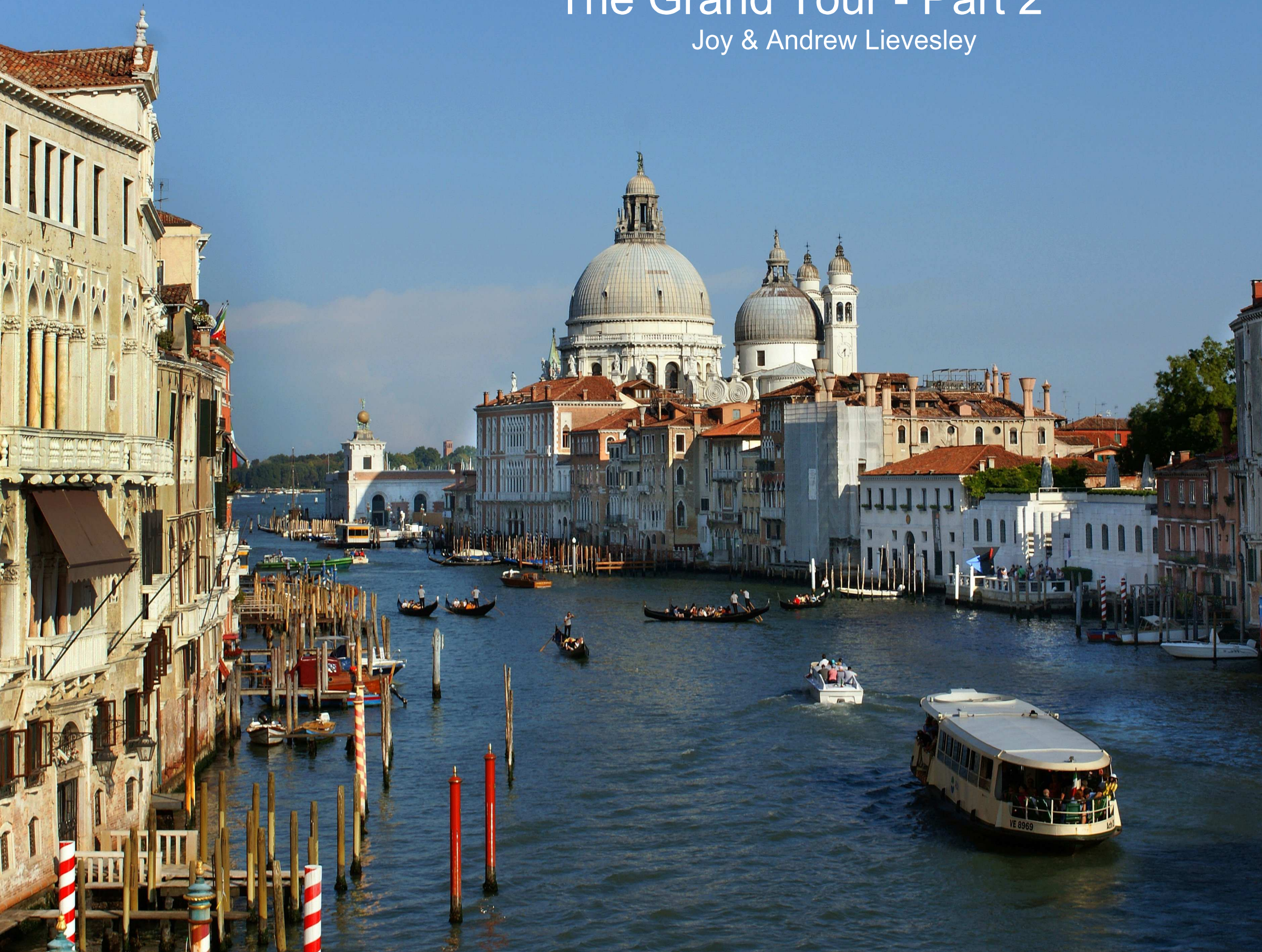


# The Grand Tour - Part 2

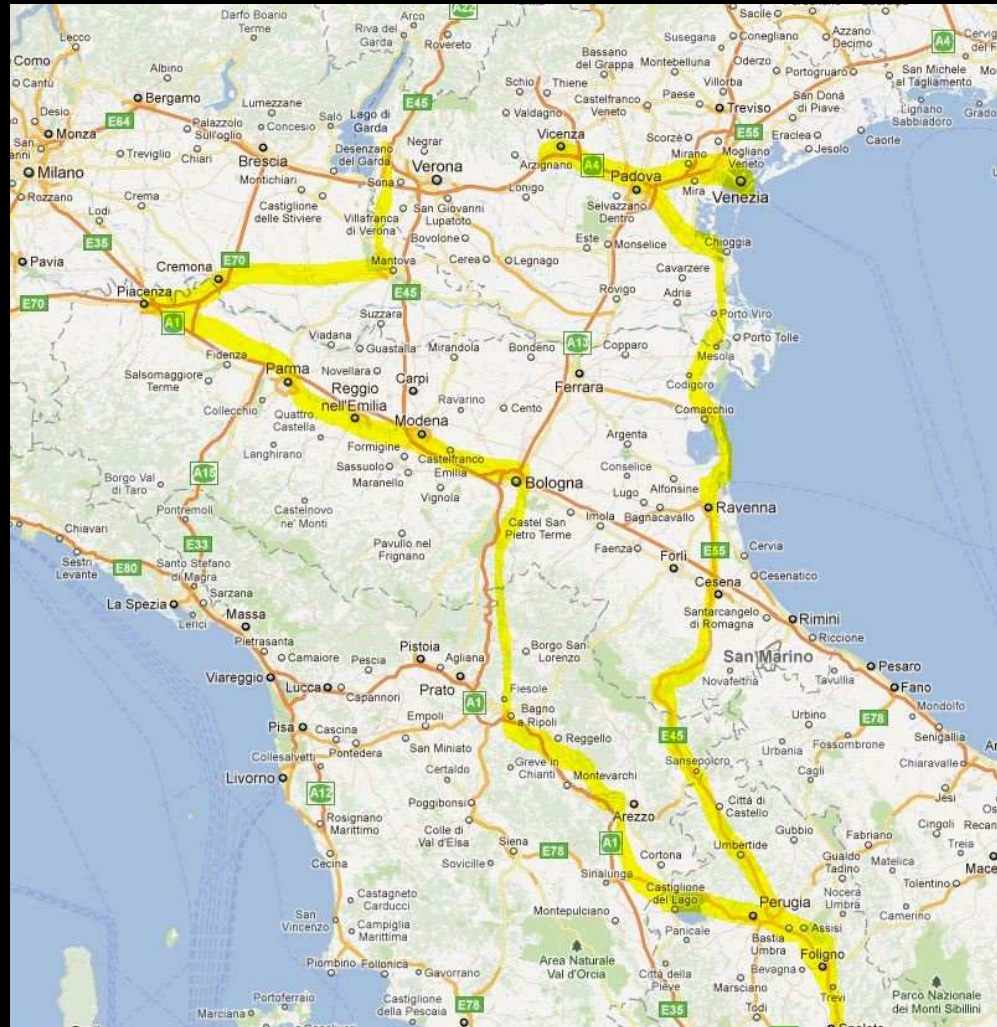
Joy & Andrew Lievesley











# The Grand Tour - Part 2

Joy & Andrew Lievesley

These two books are the story of our 3000mile car journey to Italy from 27th August to 16th September 2011.  
The story follows aproximatly the date order of the journey.





## Montefalco

This should have been a cultural visit, but we were too late in the day. As the village is known for its gastronomy and wine we decided to have lunch. All the restaurants in the square were empty except for one.... which was filling up. Finding a good position on the edge, we started off with a late coffee and then moved into a relaxed lunch of rolled aubergine and truffle bruschette and pork in a wine sauce with what looked like black currants served with grilled vegetables. Another coffee finished this memorable meal....great food and beautiful place.

After a post lunch wandering about to admire the view from the hill top.

































## Spello

After Montefalco we visited this lovely hill town. It is famous for a church with frescoes by Pintoricchio.

We then climbed to the top of the town admired the view, ate an ice cream and drove home.

Days total : 2 Churches, 1 VVG, 1 great lunch.





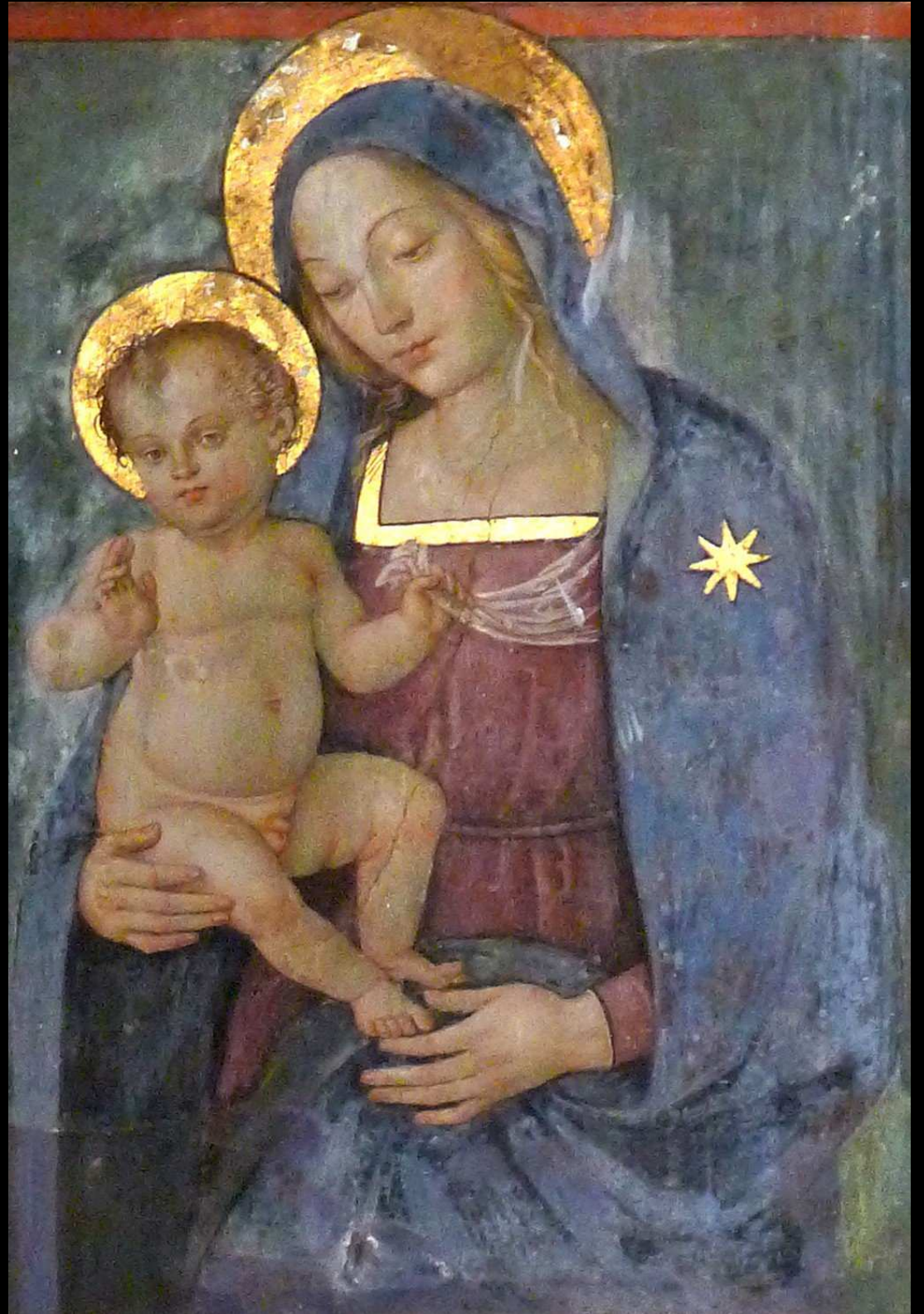
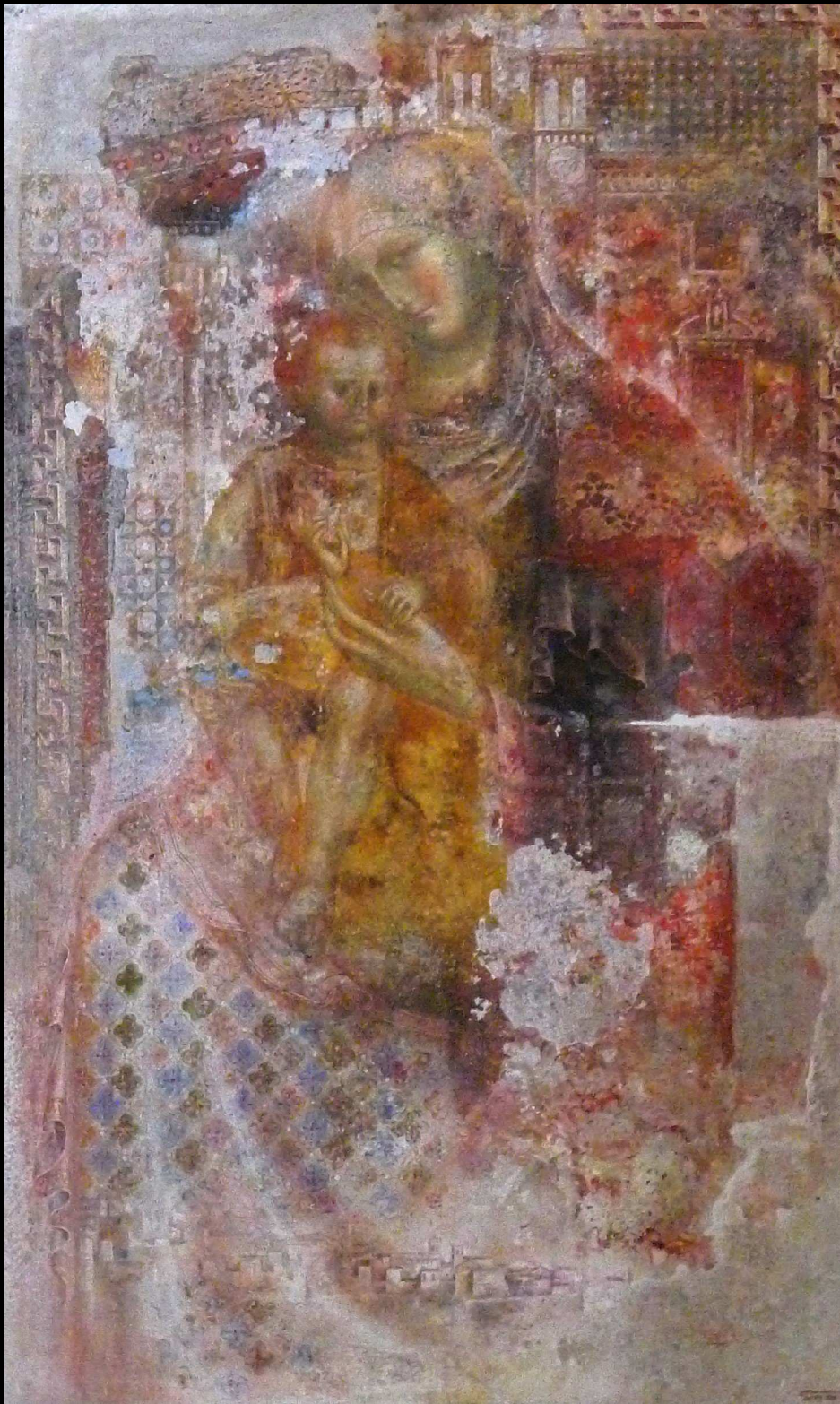




















## Perugia

After a morning in Assisi we visited this university town which is perched on the top of a hill. The key attraction is the National Gallery, which was very good. The Cathedral is famous for its outside, built of Roman remains but not the inside. We then walked to the end of the walled town and admired the view from the top of the hill.

Days total : 1 Cathedral, 1 art gallery.



















































## Gubbio

The journey to Gubbio was through beautiful countryside, stunning views and rolling hills.

On arrival we consumed the coffee and sticky buns, then straight in to look at the frescoes in the church of St Francis. Then we had the slog up the hill to the top of the town, but were saved by two lifts. We started the tour with the Palazzo dei Consoli, a museum on local history and art.

Then up to the next level for Diocesan Museum, followed by the Cathedral.



















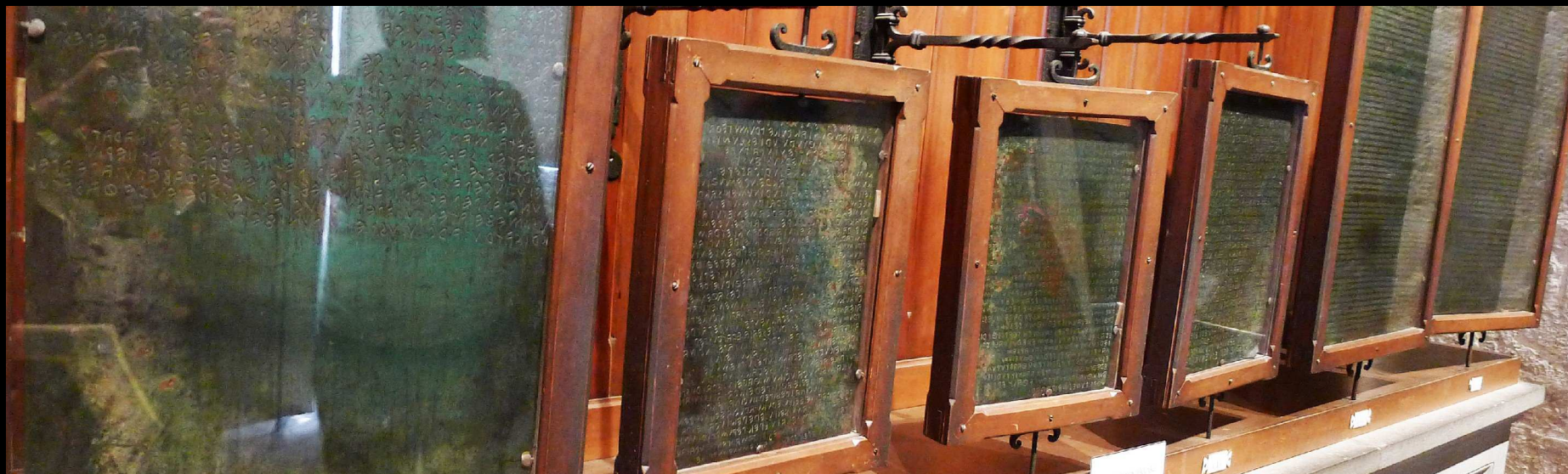












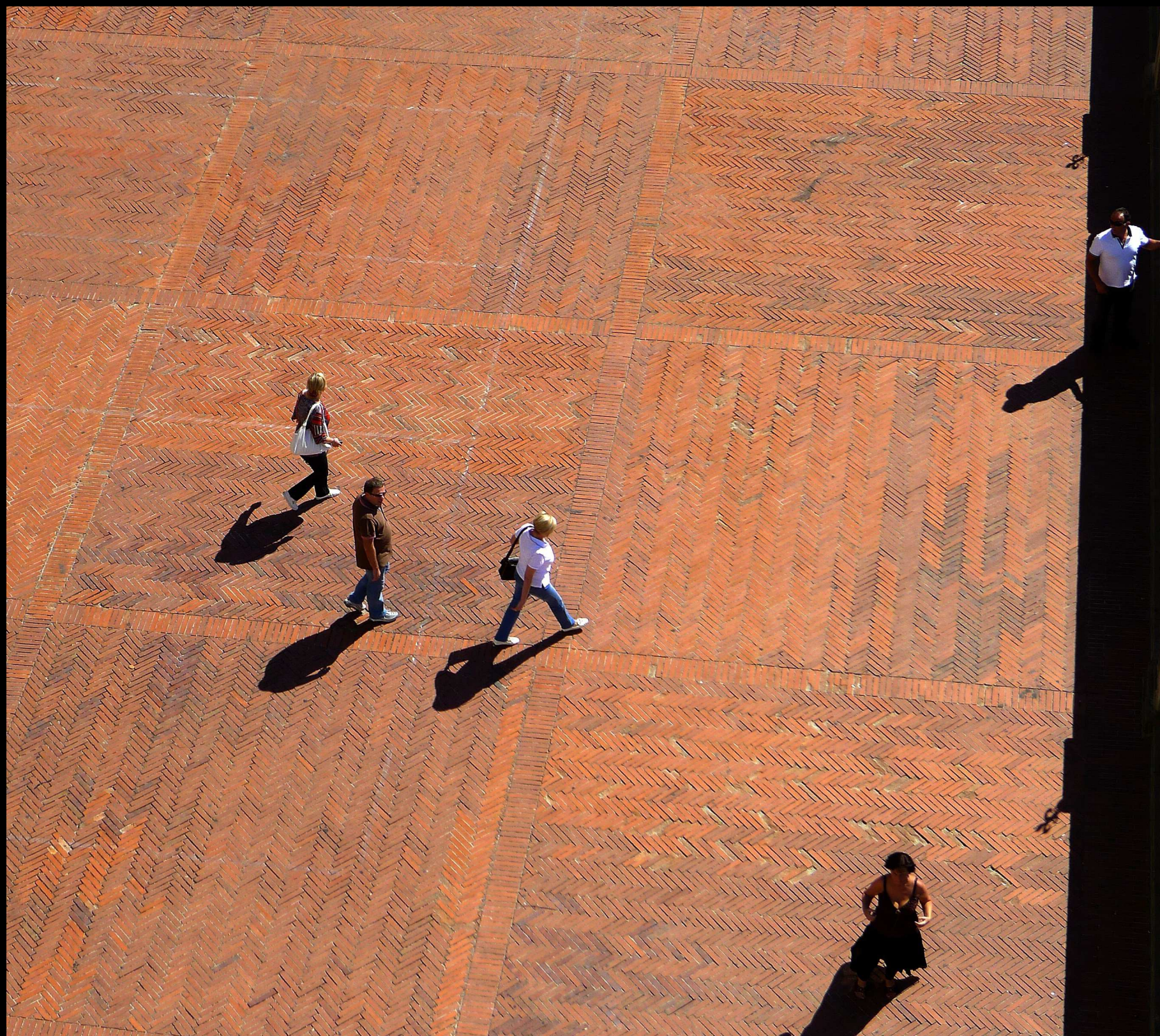




























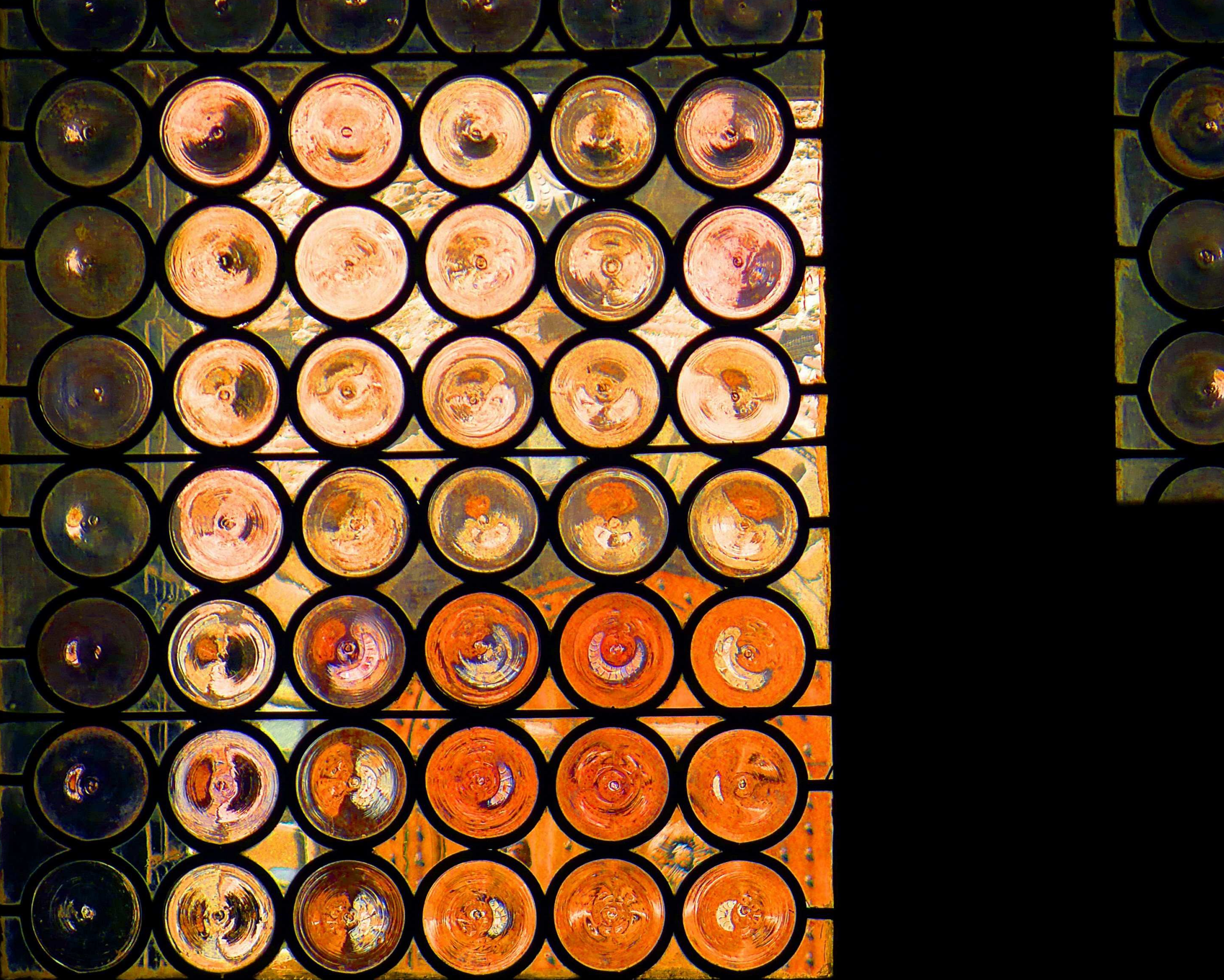




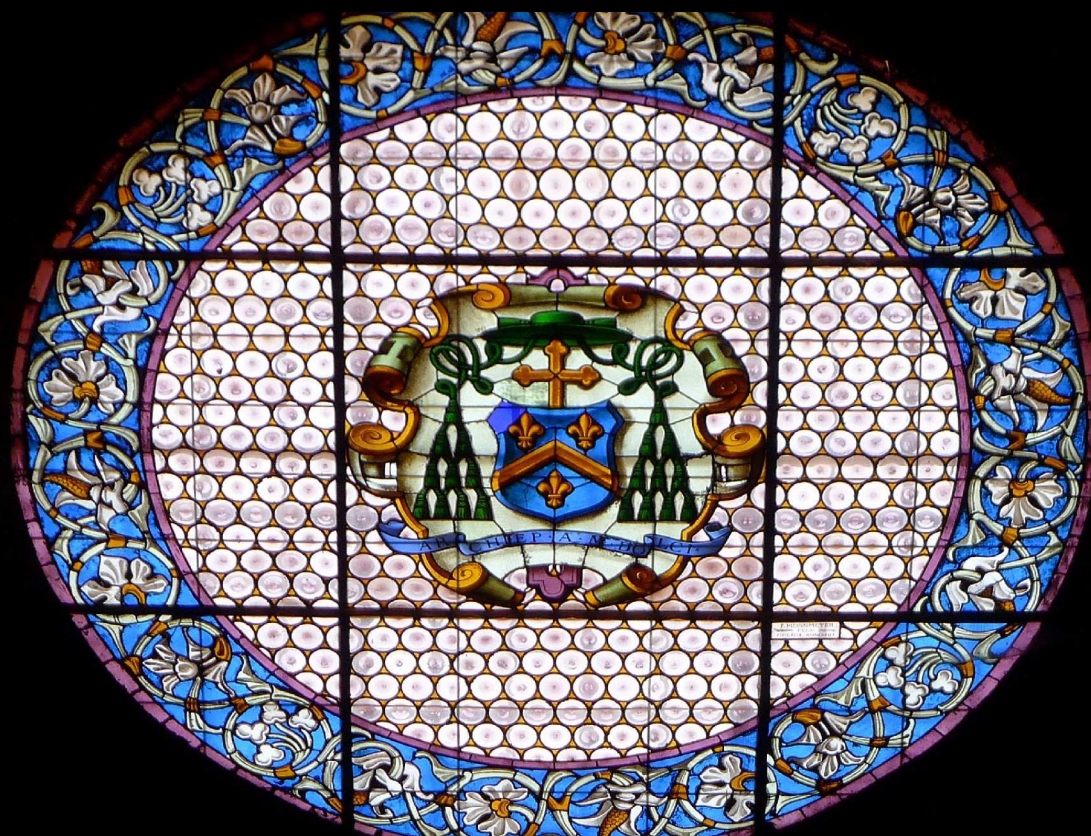








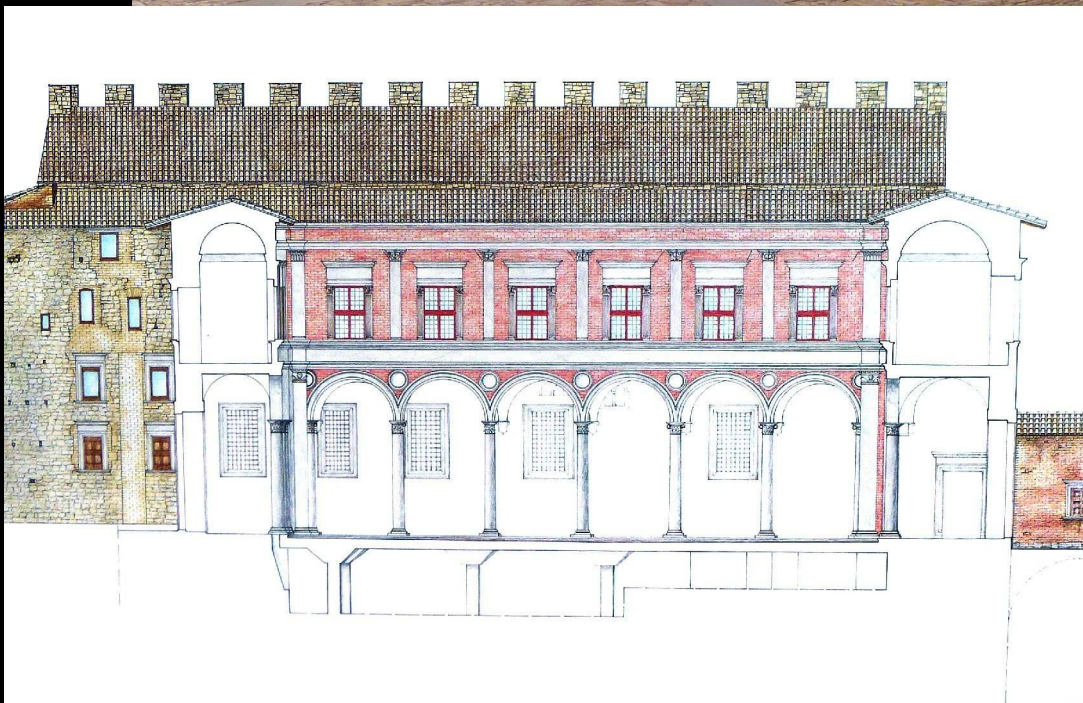










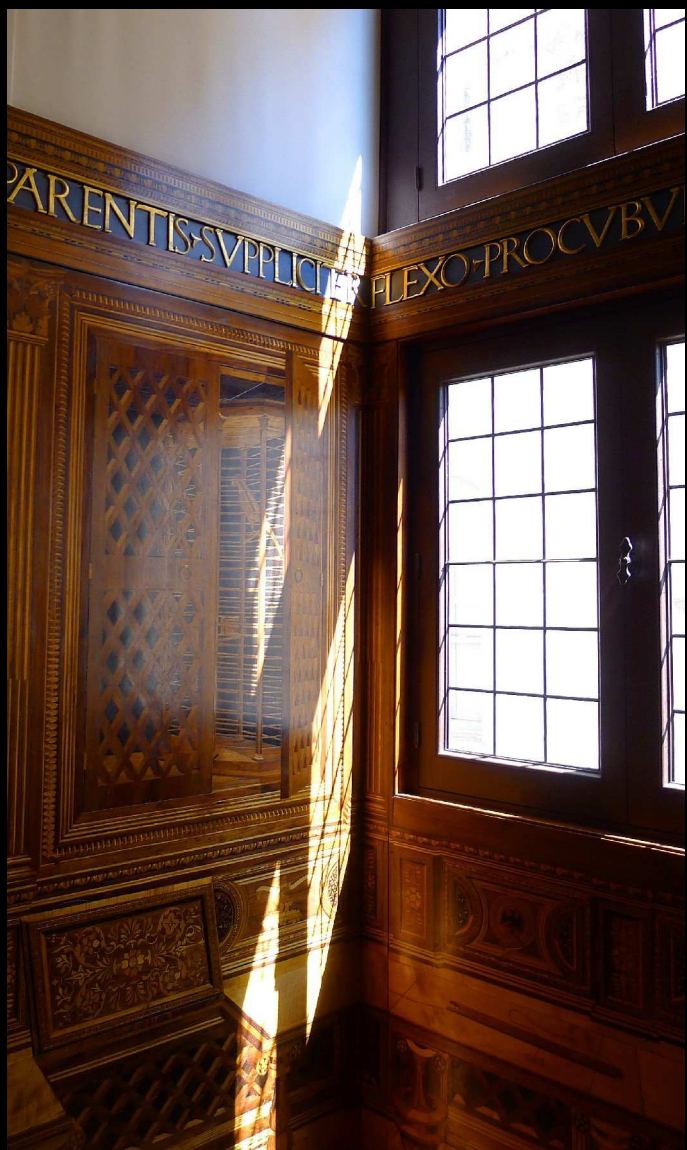


After the Cathedral we crossed the road to the Ducal Palace which had been turned into an art gallery. To recover after all this activity we descended a level for a forciasia lunch and mass post card writing session.

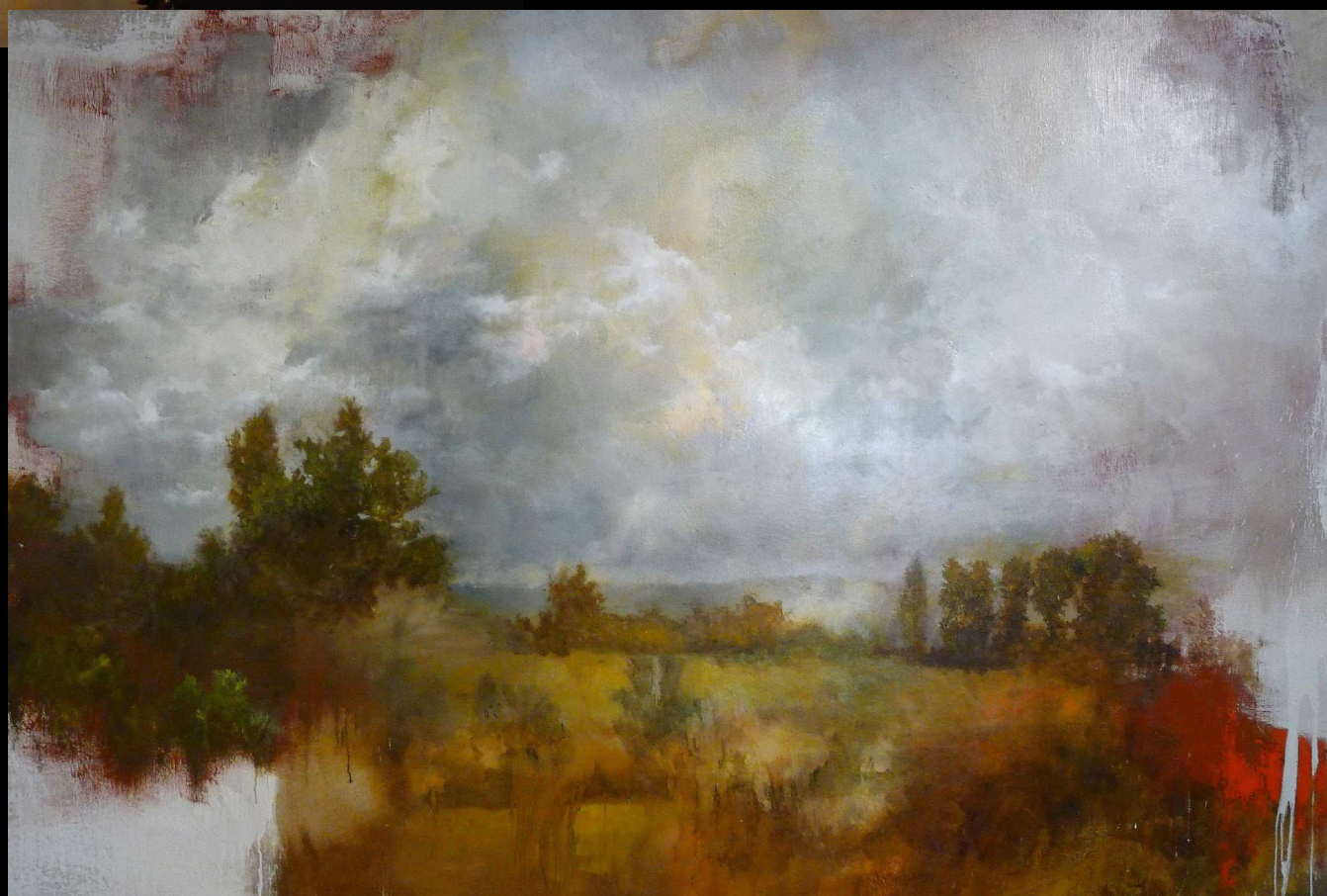
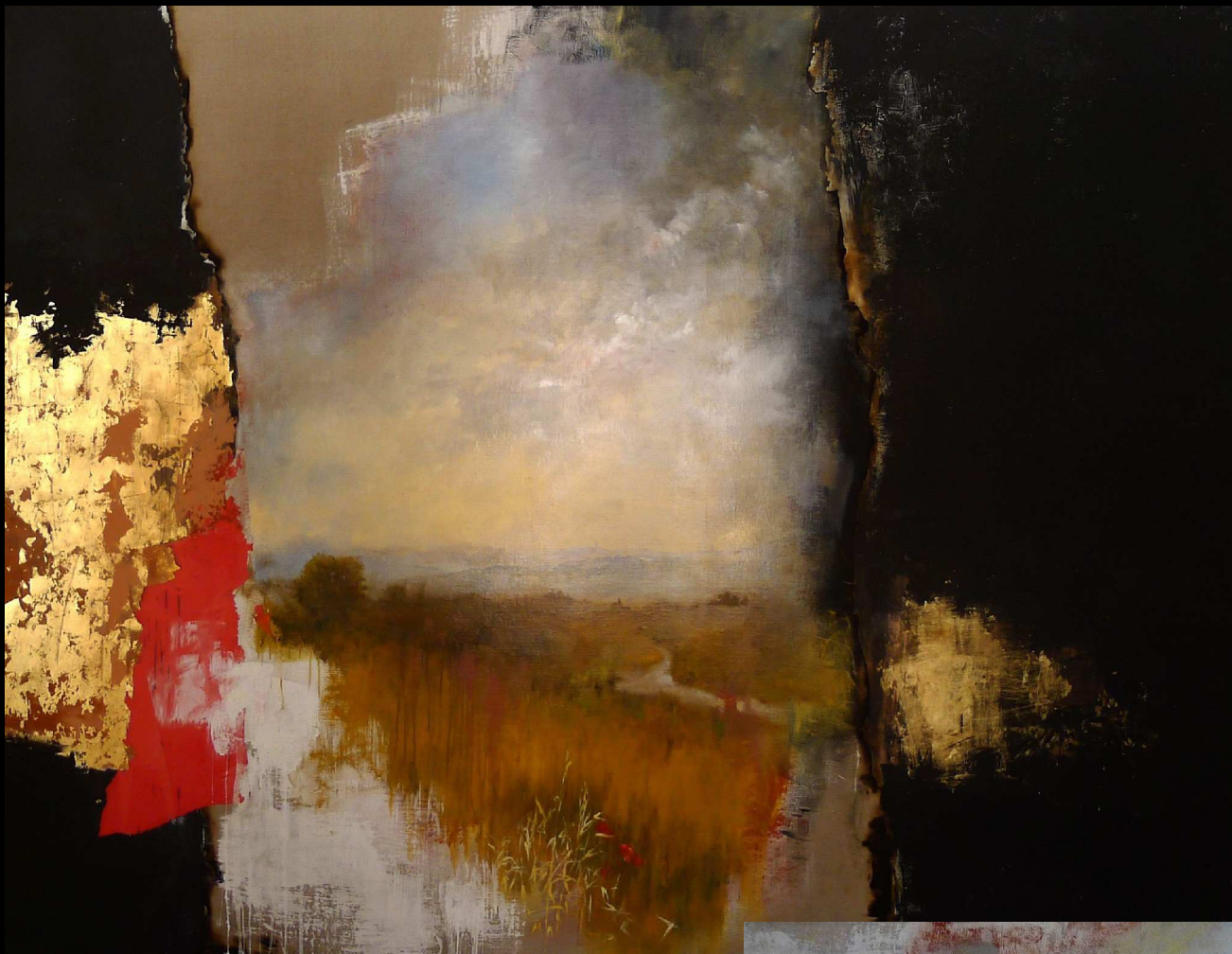
On the way back to Casa Rosa we found an ice cream parlour.

Days Total : 2 churches , 2 Palaces/ galleries, 1 ice cream parlour.























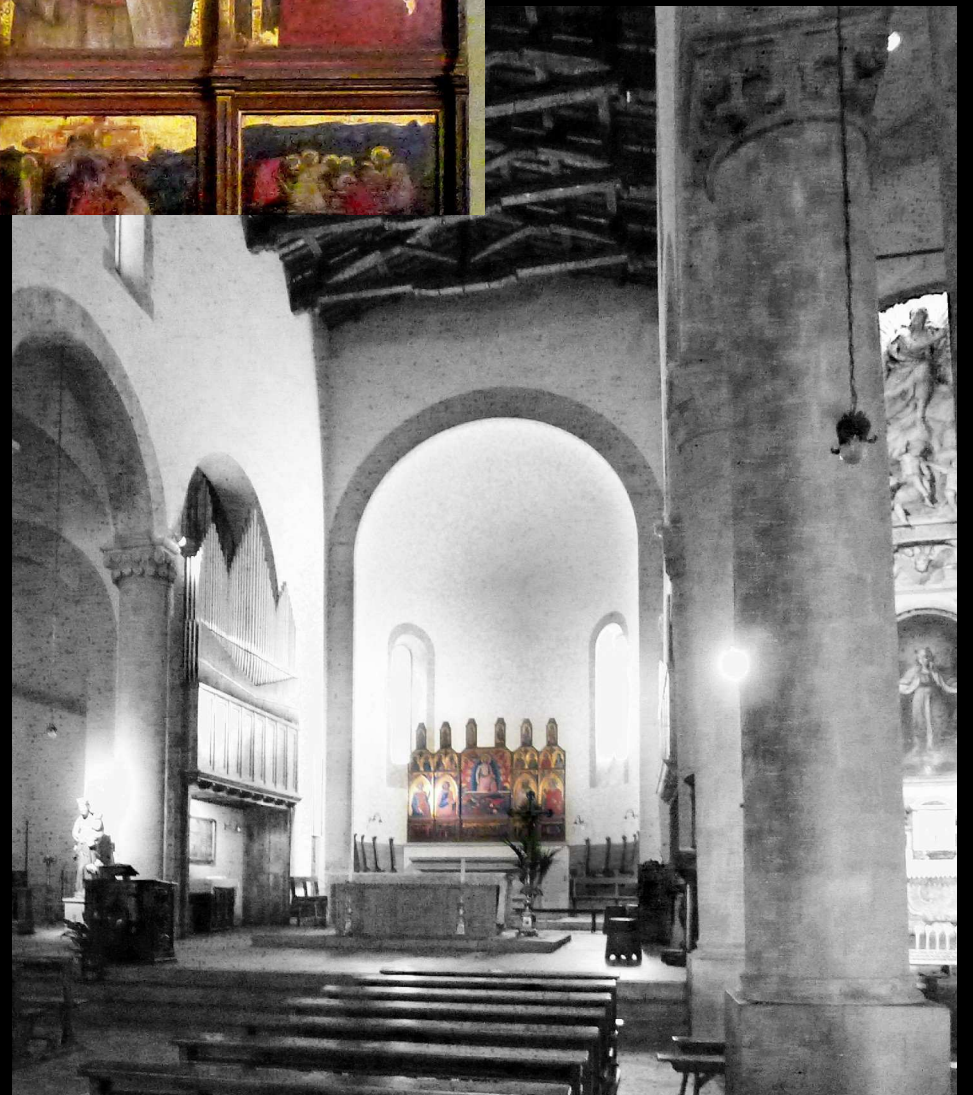


## Sansepolcro

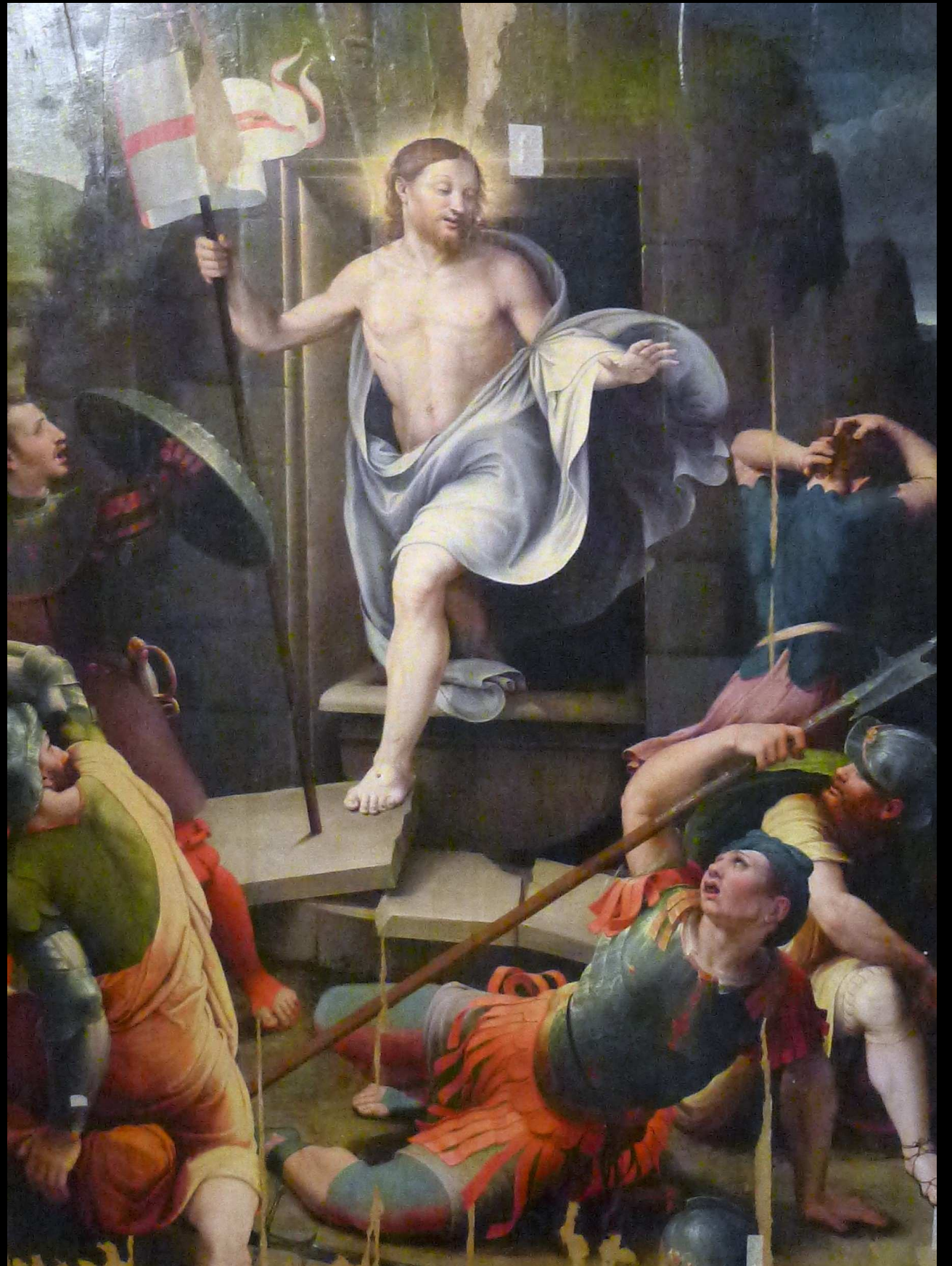
On the way to Ravenna we stopped at this small town, mainly for one famous painting, but found so much more in the couple hours we were there. After a cup of coffee and croissant we crossed the road to the Duomo. We eventually found some famous and faded frescoes to St Benedict in a corridor outside the main building. By a bit of digital enhancement you can see how good they were originally.

We then headed for the Civic Museum which housed the Piero della Francesca painting of the resurrection... now a little faded but brought back to life digitally here.

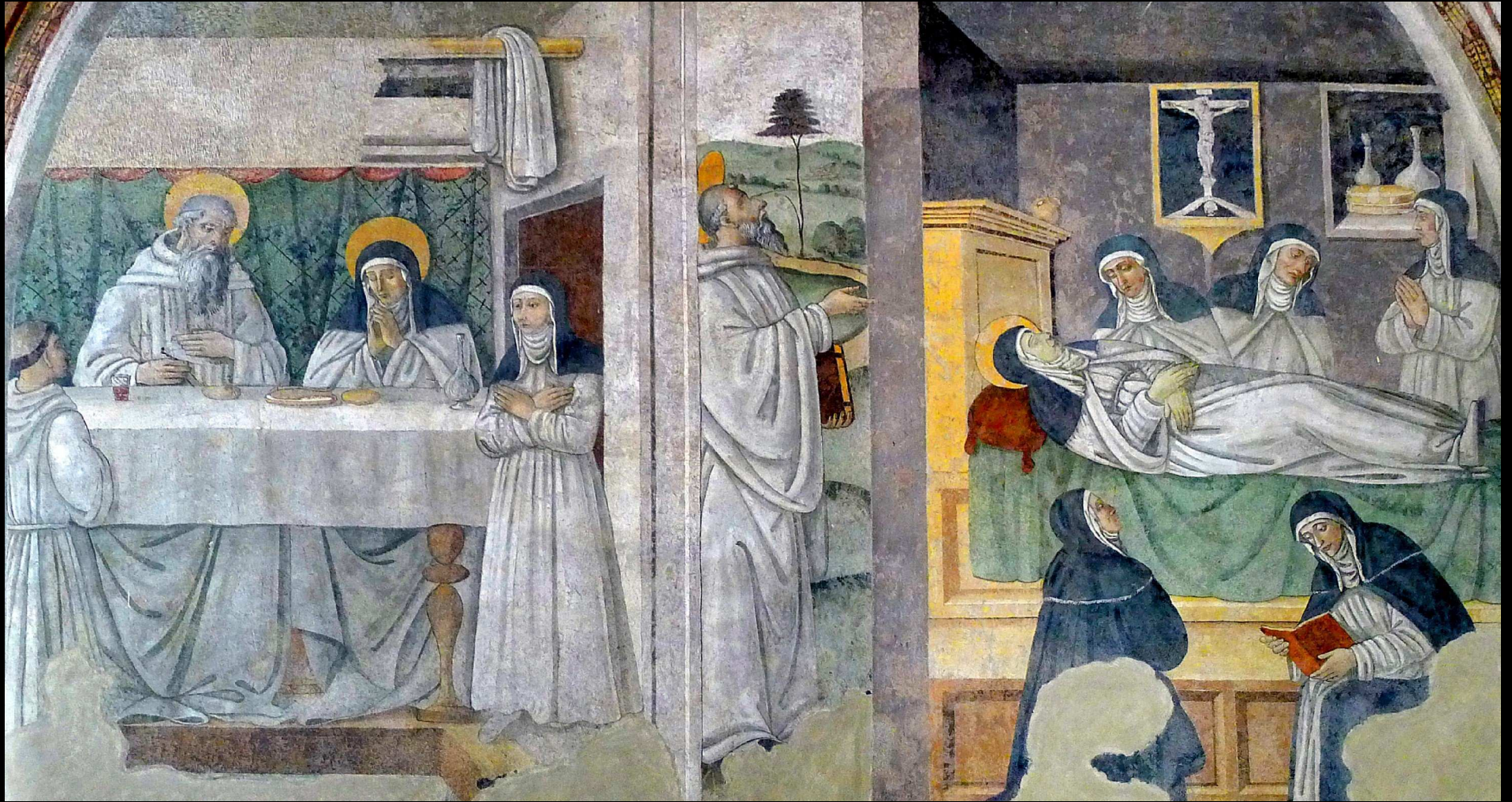




























MONTE DEI PASI

Palin della S

ITALIA

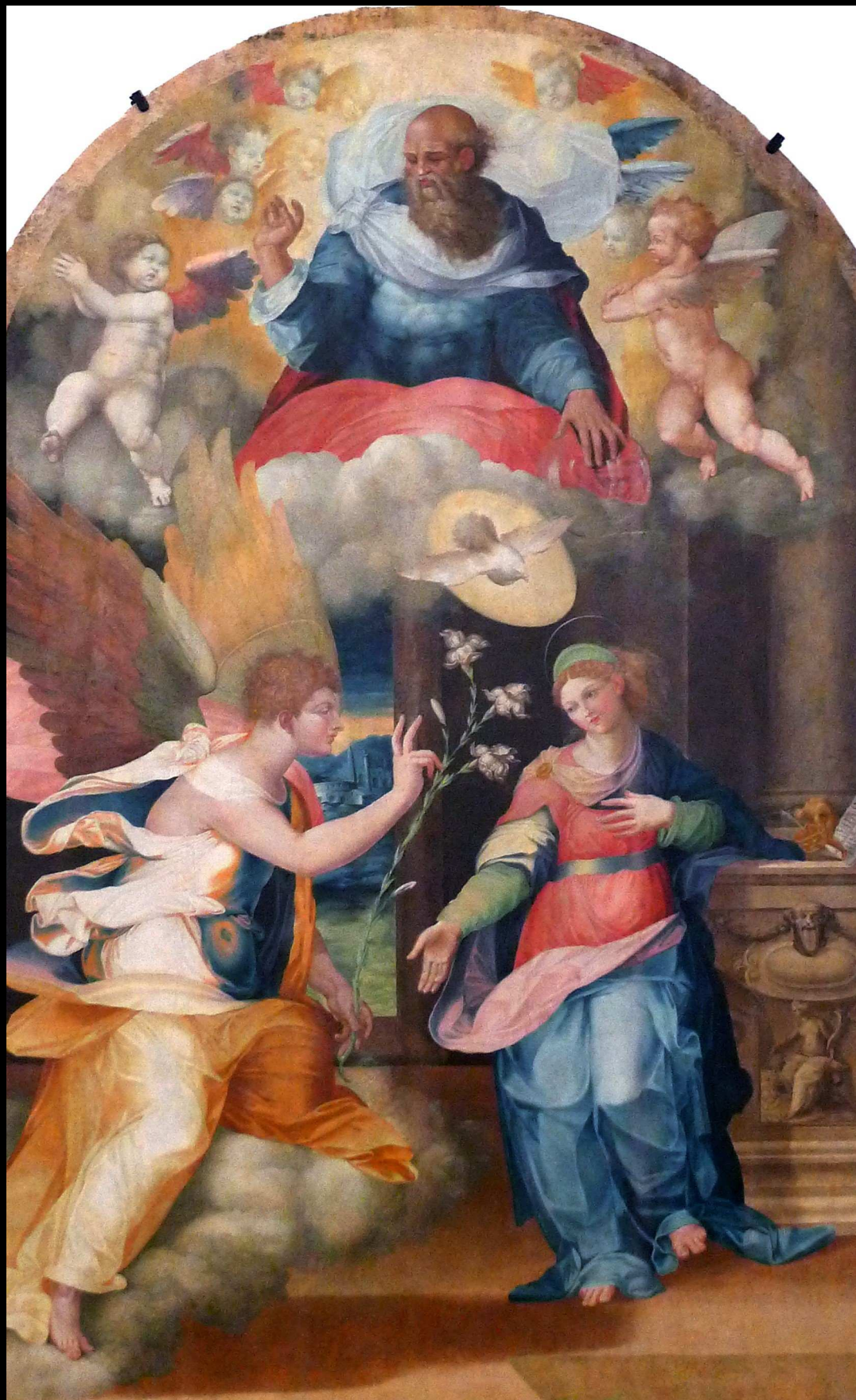
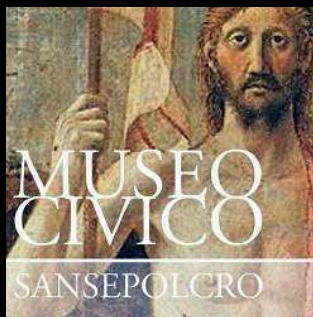
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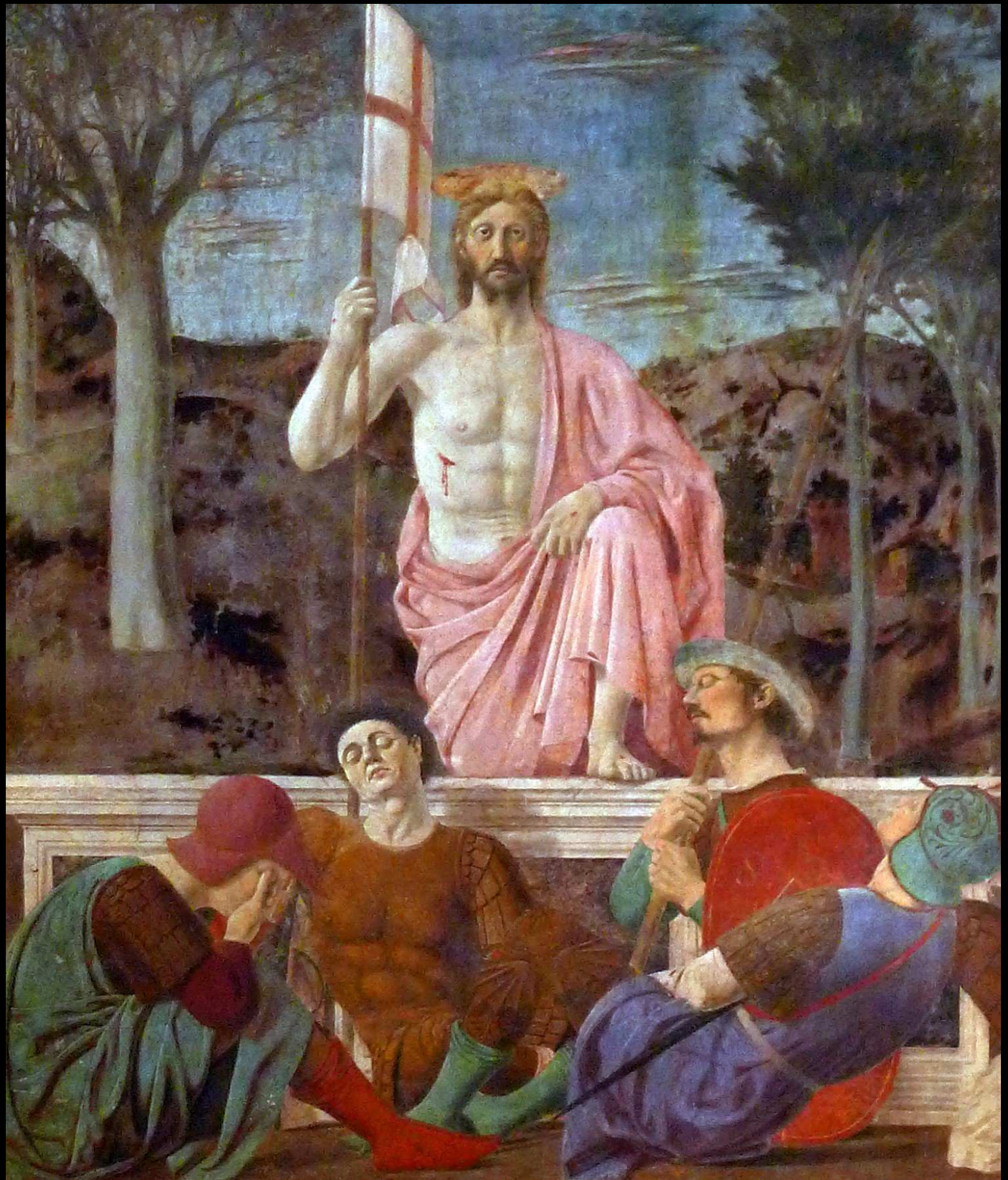
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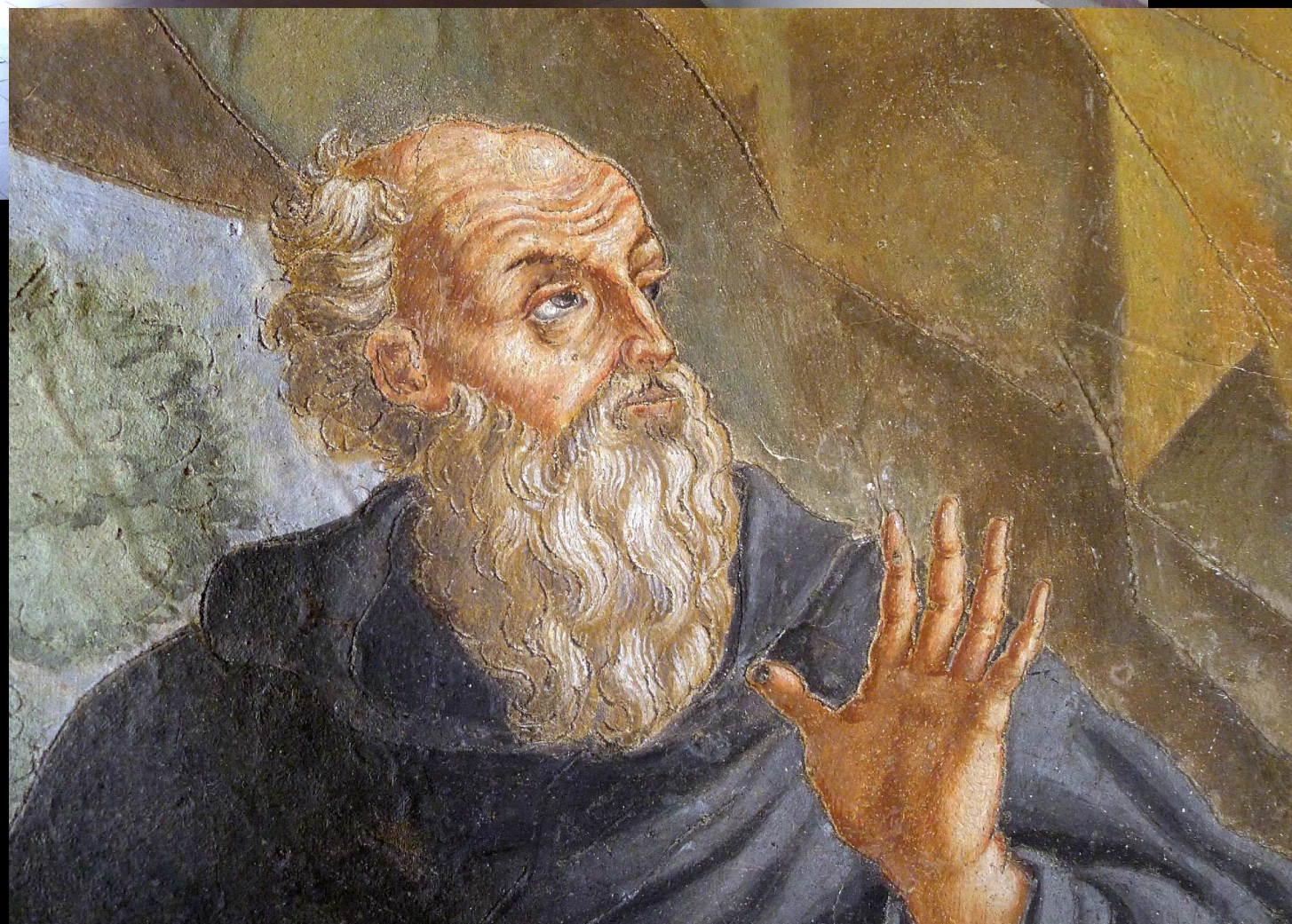




















## Ravenna

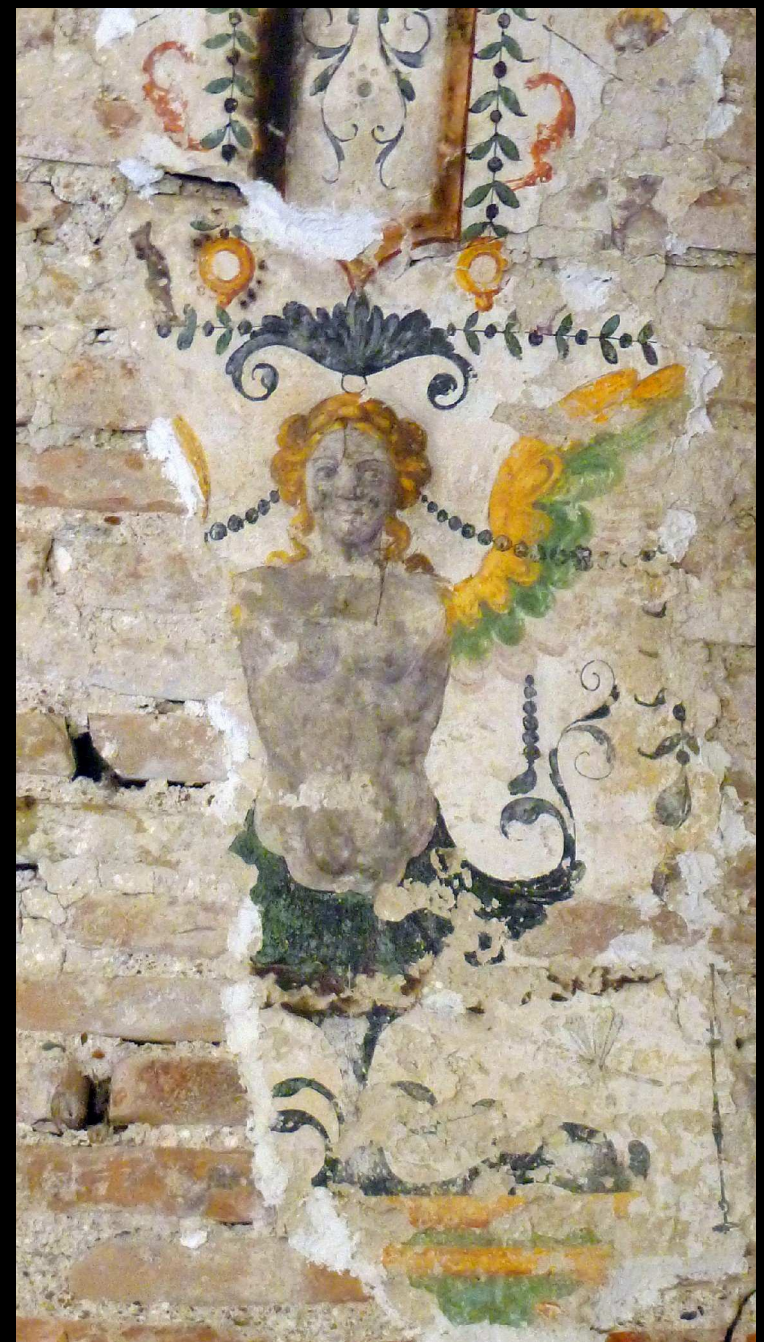
Arrived at lunch time and found room for a pizza. This city is famous for its mosaics; we started at a small Baptistry and then headed for Basilica di Sant'Apollinare Nuovo both were very impressive. We then visited the civic museum and Duomo, which were not so 'wow'.

However the best was saved to last. The XI century Basilica di San Vitale was truly breathtaking in design and for its mosaics. Attached to this is the Mausoleo di Galla Placidia a V century building with more impressive mosaics. After this it was time for a VVG & beer. In the evening we eat pasta in the town square followed by another big ice cream as we wandered back to the hotel.

Day Total: 8 churches/ baptistries etc., 1 civic museum, 1 VVG and 6000 calories consumed (top eating day for bulk, if not quality)































































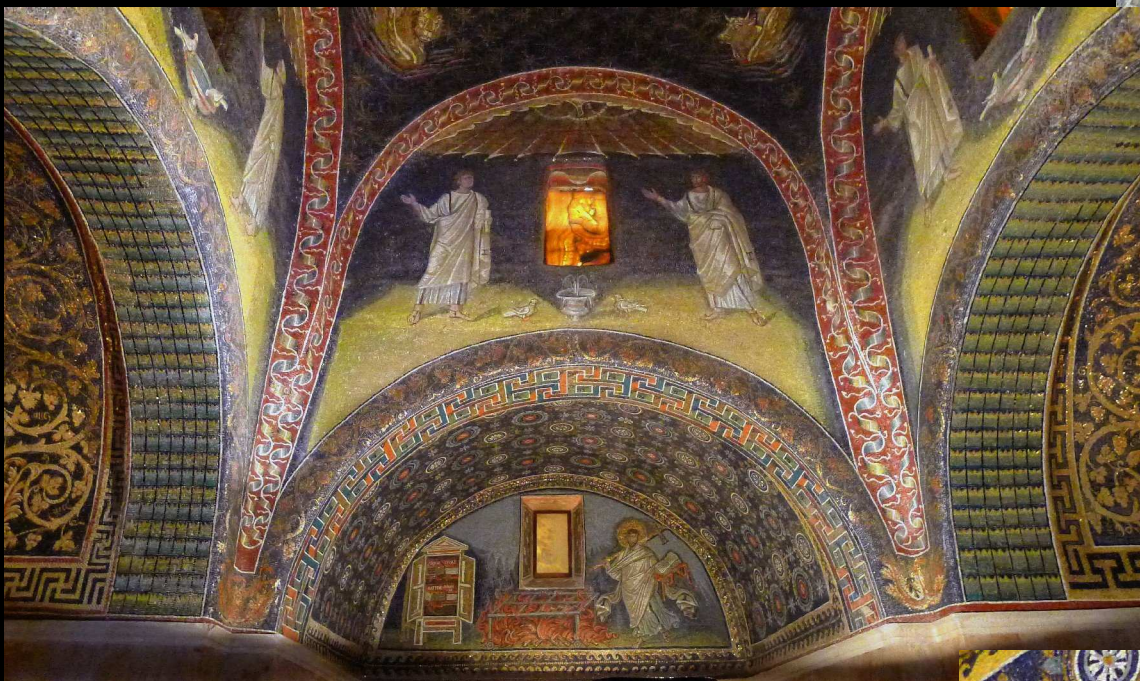




























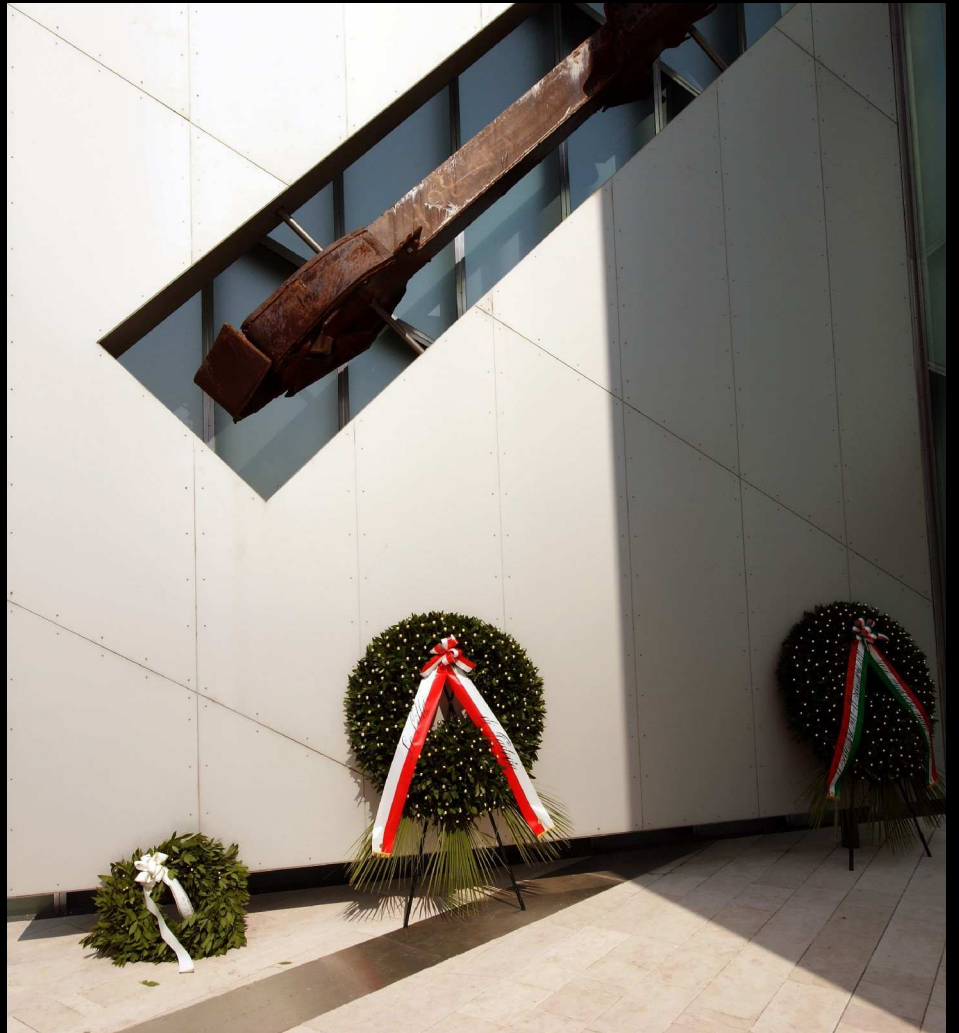




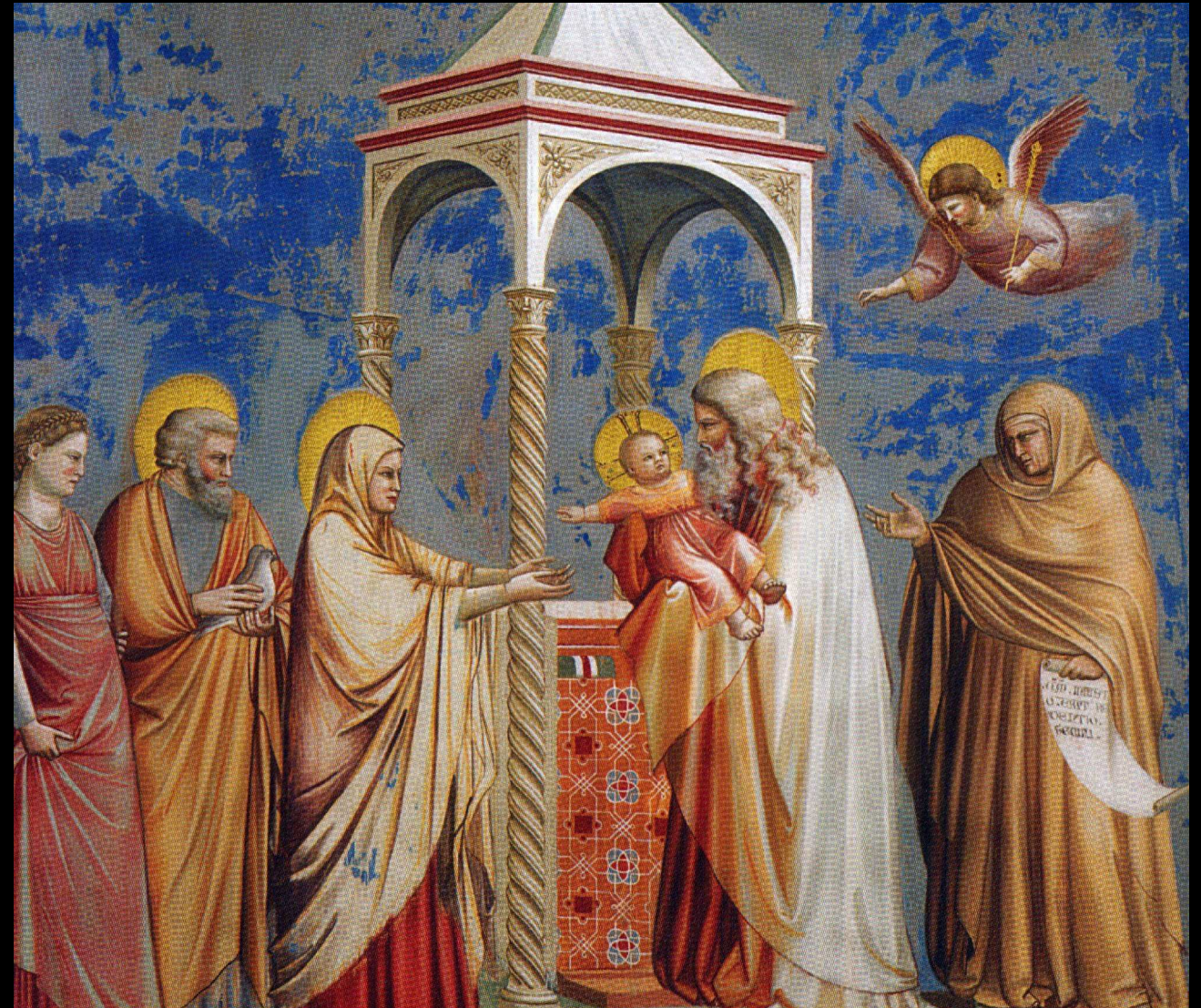
## Padua

After finding our hotel we walked into town. The first stop was at a very fitting memorial to the victims of 11th September attacks exactly 10 years before to the day . The centre was a girder from the New York trade centre towers.









Next we visited the Scrovegni Chapel to see Giotto's frescoes. Cameras were clearly not allowed so we reproduce a couple of pictures from the guide book, all very impressive.

Then into the museum next door, followed by a restored monastery all good and interesting stuff.

We then walked further into town and visited city hall followed by the Duomo, which did not have any frescoes to speak of.

Beer and VVG's followed by dinner in one of the many squares. An interesting and fun day.

Day Total : 3 churches/ chapels. 1 museum, 1 city hall, 1 VVG.





 MEMORIE CARRARESI AL MUSEO

		
<small>Giambattista, La Fede</small>		
		
<small>Ritratto di Francesco I (attribuito) Ritratto del vescovo Stefano da Carrara (1462)</small>	<small>Musei Civici agli Eremitani, Chiostro maggiore</small>	<small>Pittore della metà del secolo XV. Ritratto di Francesco I (Ritratto da Carrara)</small>





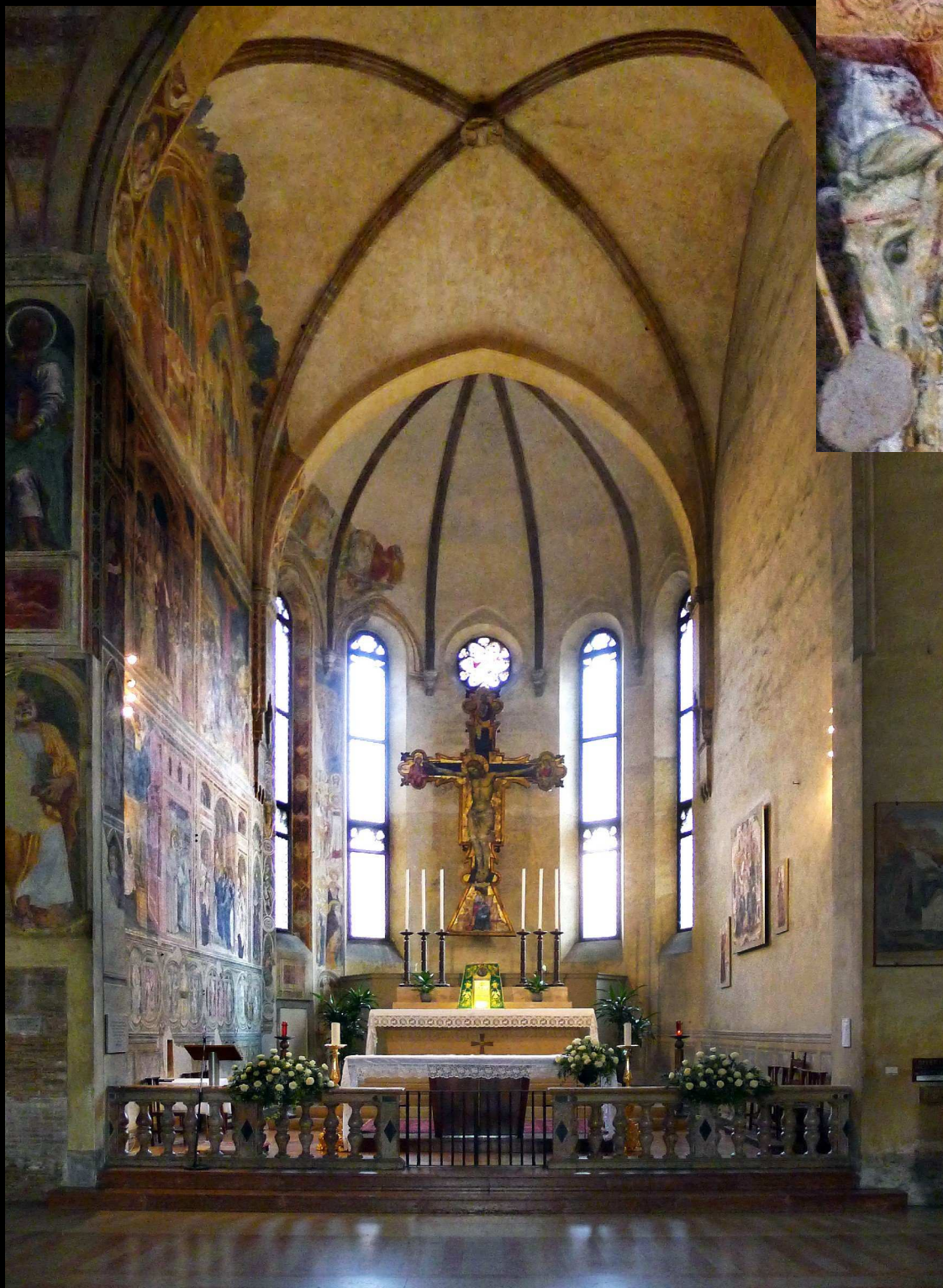
















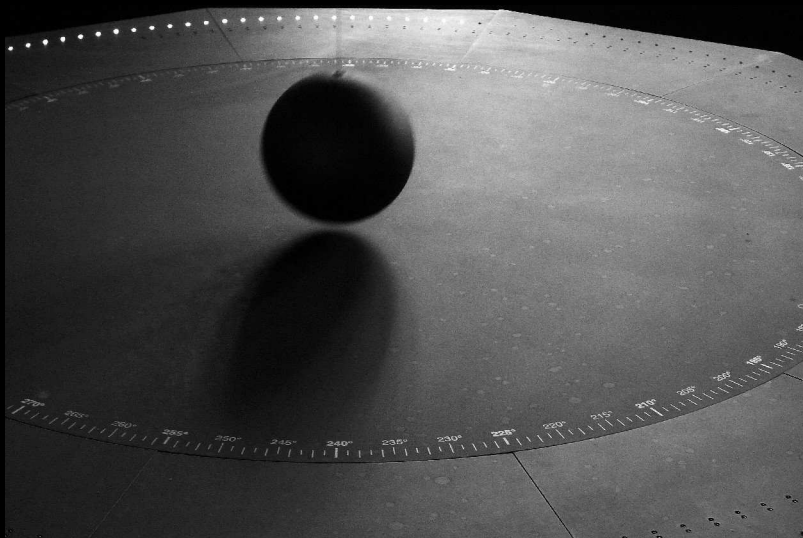
























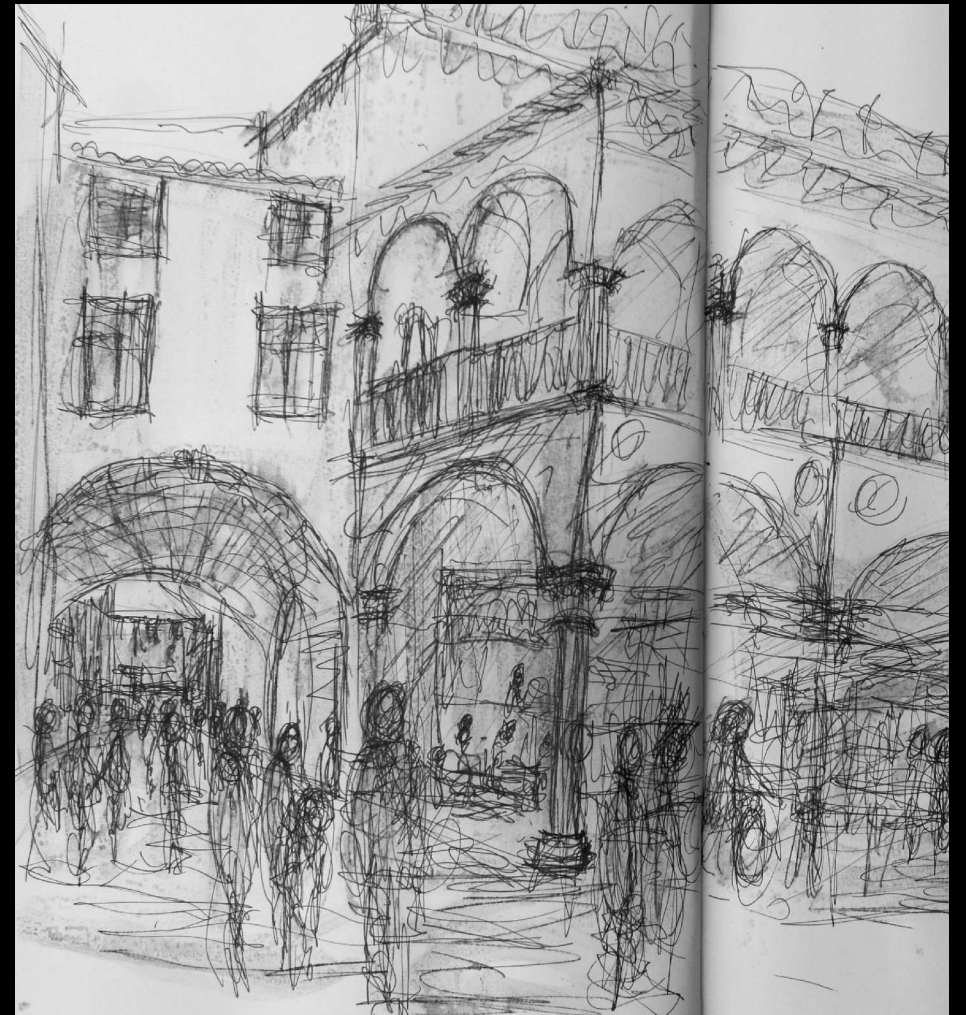












Before leaving for Vicenza, we made a visit to Padua Basilica followed by coffee and VVG at the edge of the market. The three piazzas had been transformed.







## Venice

The next morning we took the train to a very crowded Venice, revisited old memories, walked a lot, visited off the odd church, notably the Basilica dei Frari and the Salute; drank coffee at expensive bars with great views, produced two indifferent VVG's, dined by the side of the canal and arrived back into Padua on the last train. A great fun, but exhausting day.

Days Total: You name it, we did it.















































[illegible]













































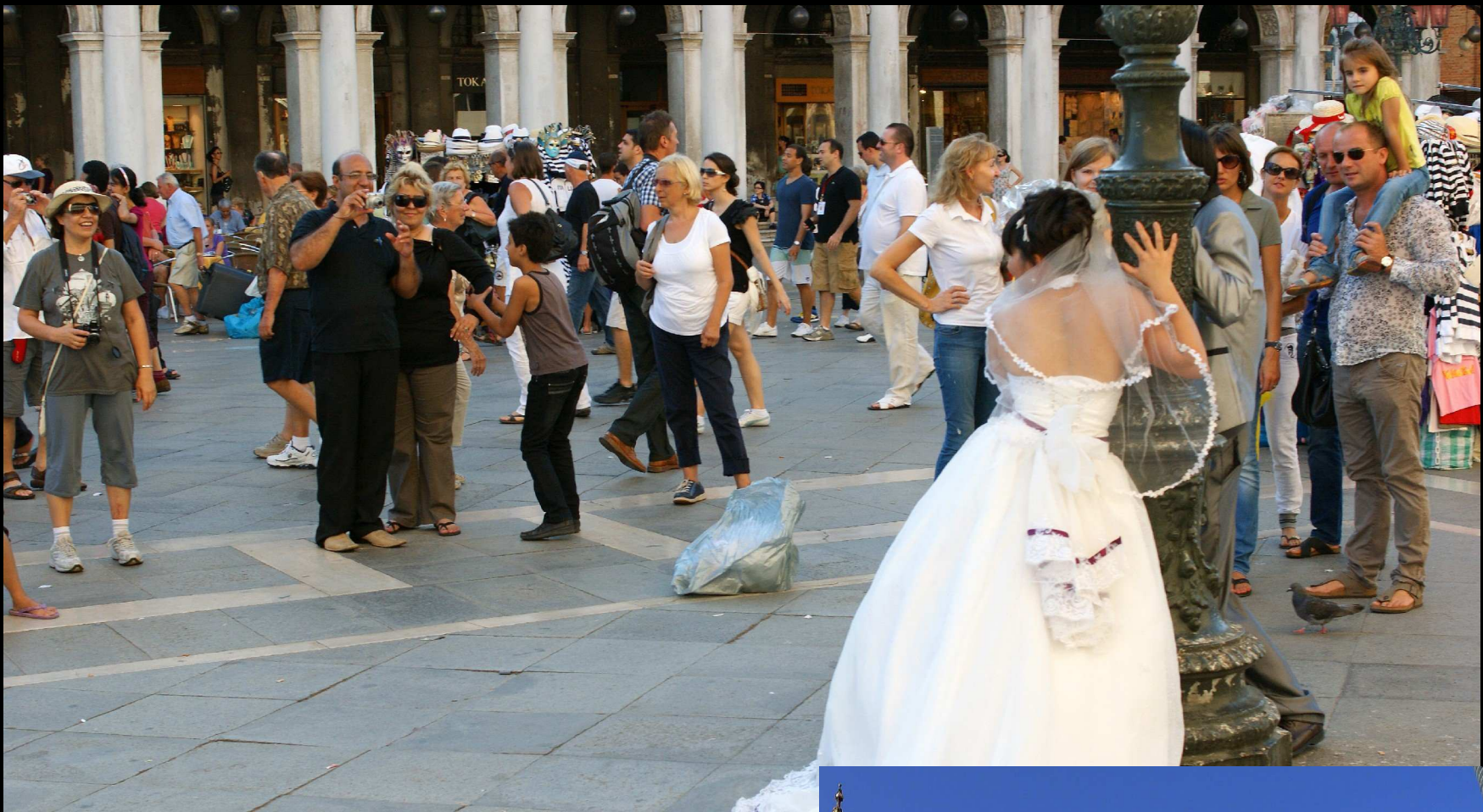




























## Vicenza

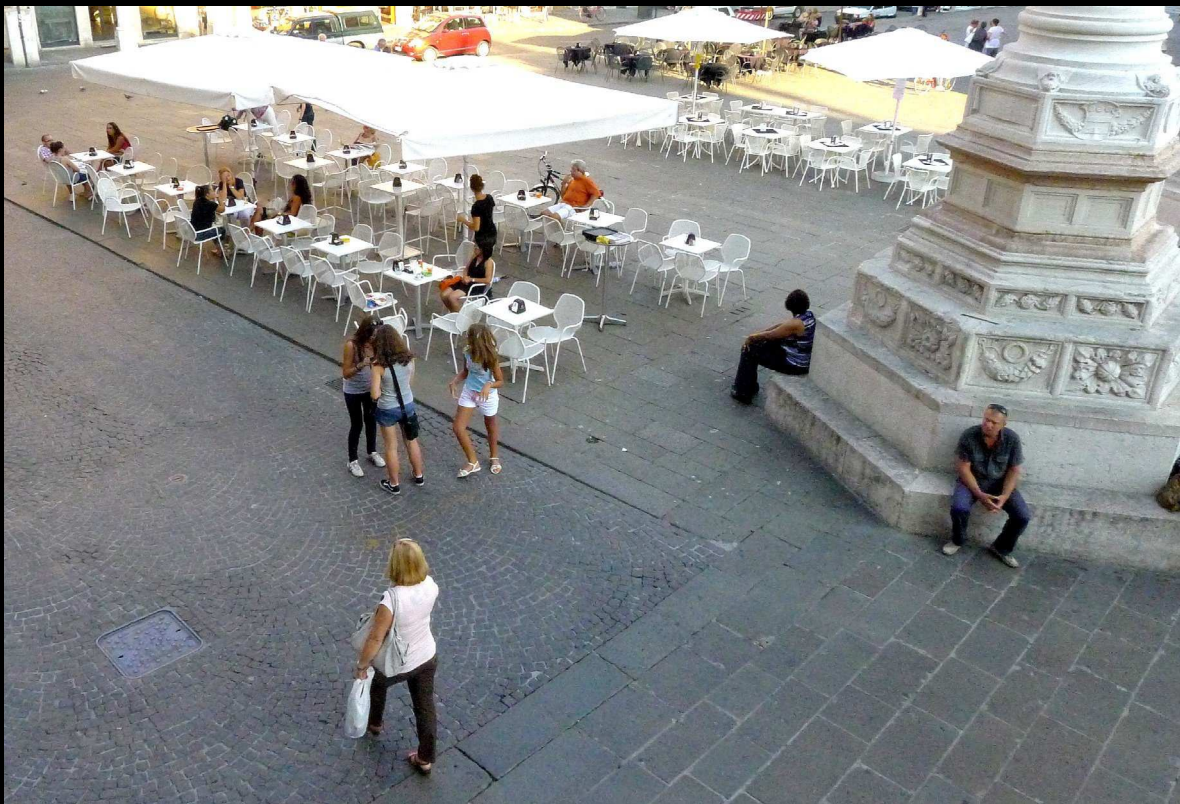
Arriving late on the first day we had a quick tour and a balcony drink in the cafe overlooking the main square... a birds eye VVG produced, before heading off for food.

Day Total : 1 Basilica , 3 VVG's .















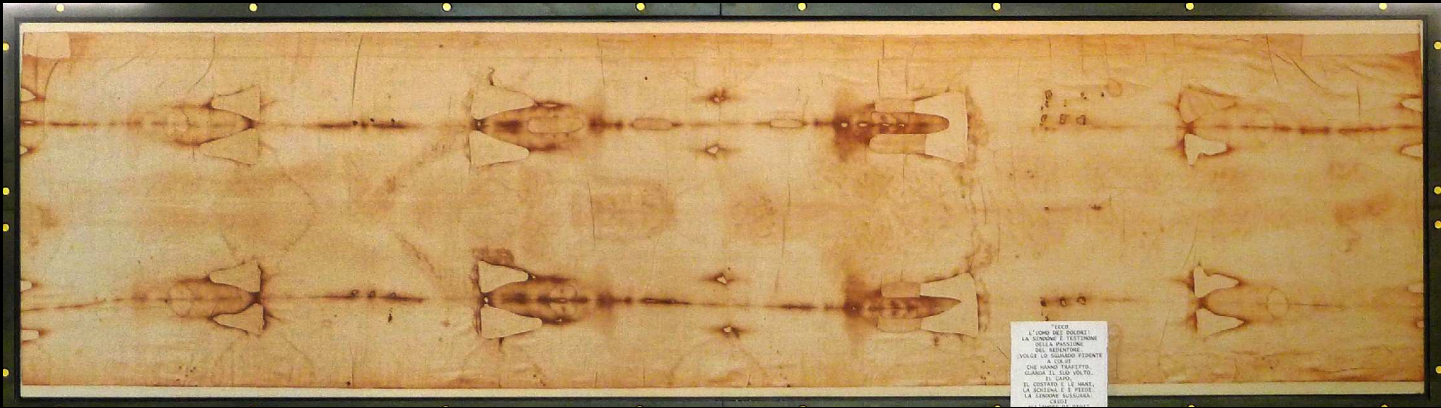
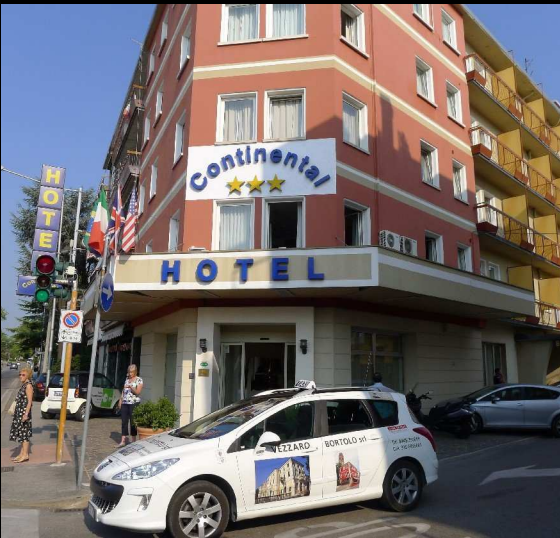


The next day started off with a tour of the Doumo, nothing spectacular, but the Diocesan Museum housed some amazing paintings. Once again cameras were technically banned; however an enthusiastic steward directed us to the important paintings by Bellini and others. We then went on to the Civic Museum, which housed some great art but regrettably it was all dirty and dark. A digital effort has improved reproductions here.

We ended the day at the famous Paladian wooden theatre that Brian Sewell mentioned in his TV series. We spent the rest of the day recovering and enjoying our last meal outside ( 'J' had a great spaghetti Vongole) and our last big ice cream of the trip on the way back to the hotel.

Day Total : 1 cathedral, 2 museums, 1 theatre, 1 VVG.

















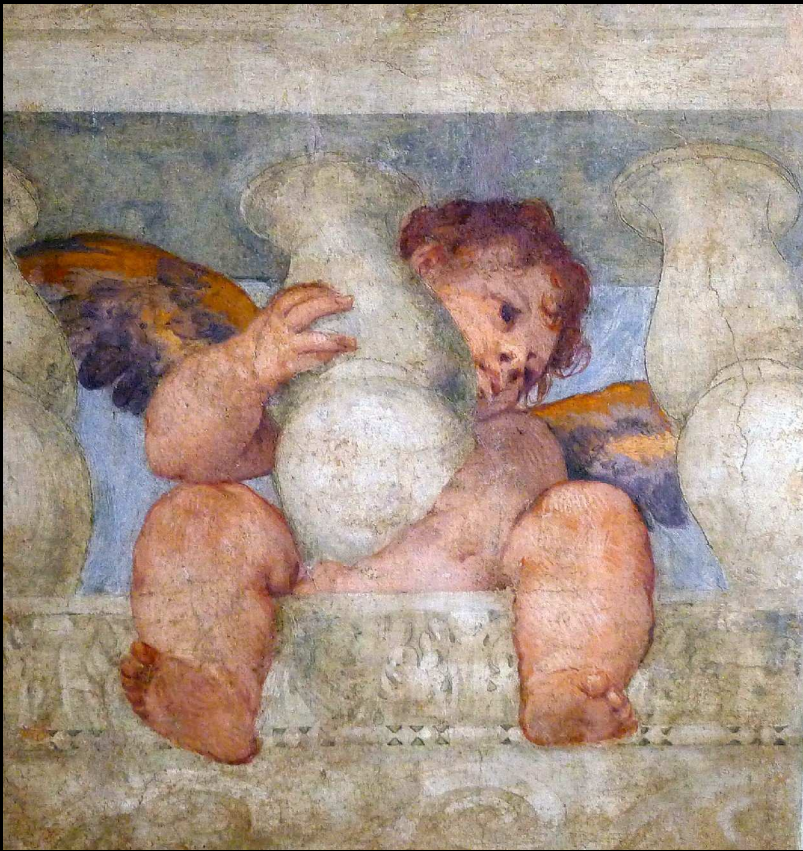
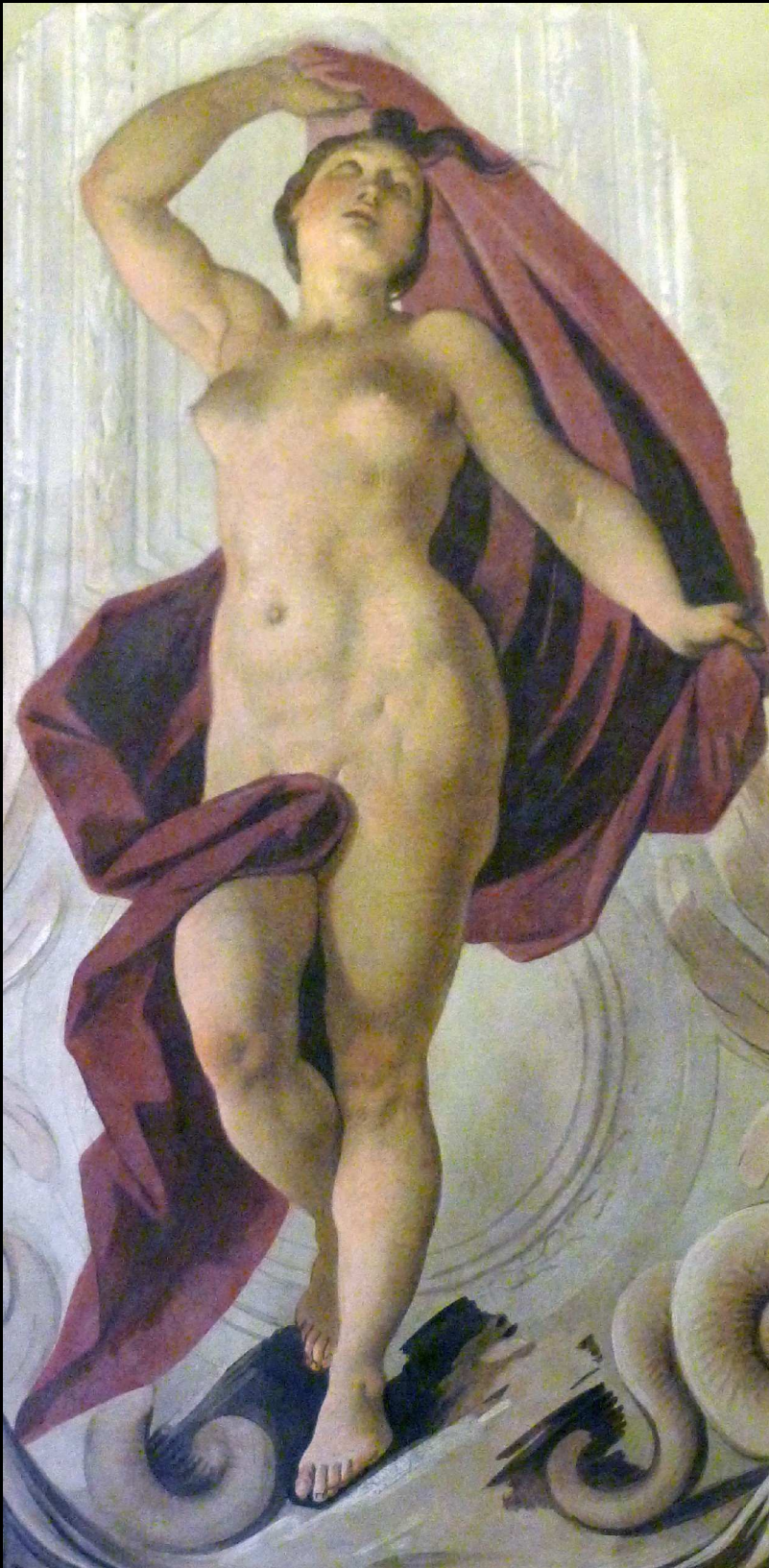
































We visited this container display on Italian design on our way back to the hotel in Vicenza. Not sure where shipping containers fit in the list of churches and museums, but it seemed a good note to end on.



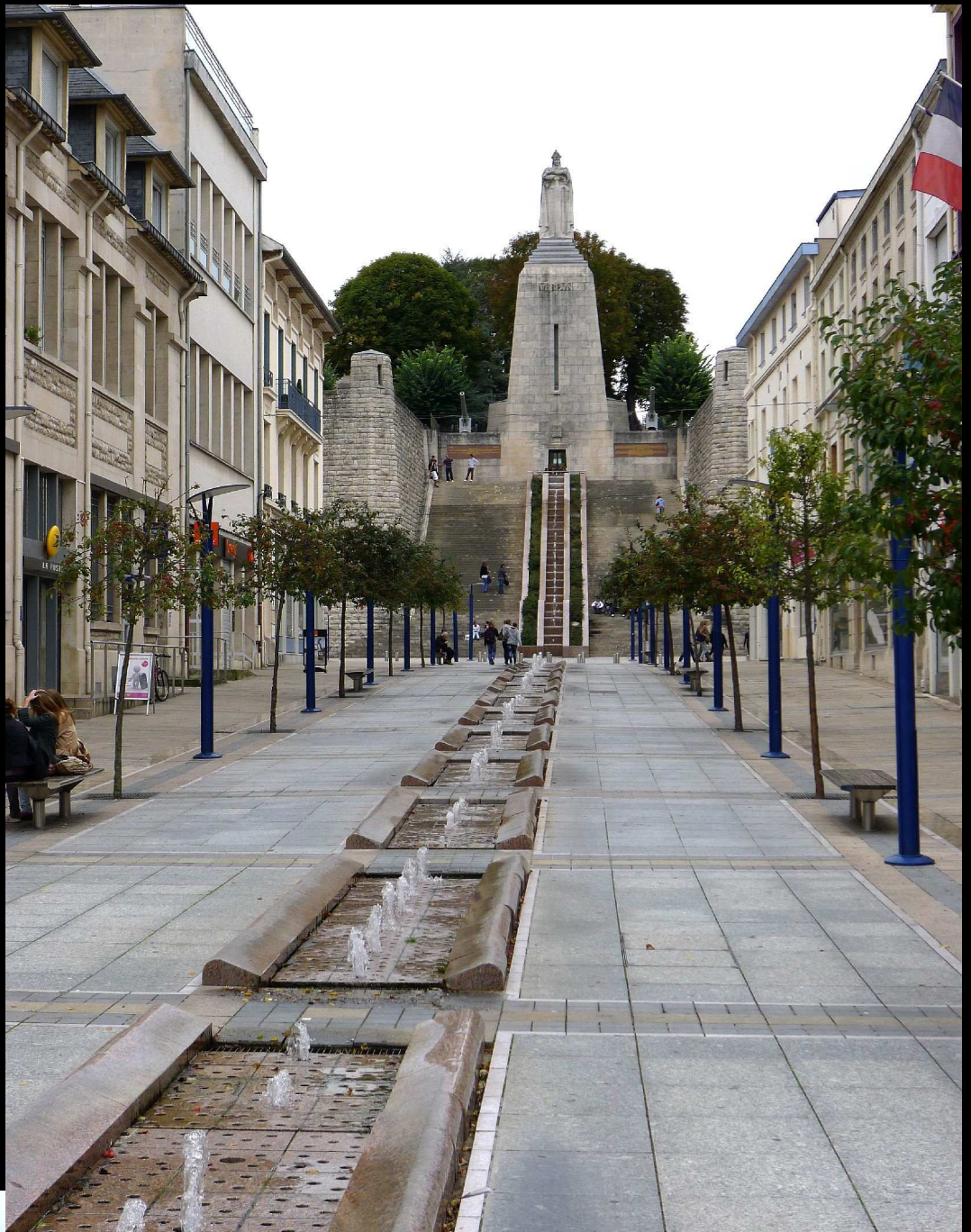


Because of the big hold up near Lucerne on the way down, we decided to go back via Innsbruck. It was longer in distance and time, but was good fun to see somewhere we had not been to before.

Lunch was taken at a mountain village off the motorway in Austria











From our overnight stop near Colmar, we tackled the long drive home, stopping at Verdun for a pleasant if chilly meal outside.

Just before we reached the tunnel we had a sticky bun break in a French motorway place... it was very good.











