

Historical description

Cappella Cavassa is located into the cloister of S. Giovanni monastery in Saluzzo.

The cloister was built in 1466 by the will of Lodovico I and it is part of the namesake church, which originally was a place of worship for Dominicans.

On the capitals of the columns there are several crests of the main and most important families from Saluzzo.

A terracotta stonework, once polychrome, representing the Visitation, is placed on the wall next to the entrance.

Cappella Cavassa is the burial site of Galeazzo Cavassa, general vicar of the Marquisate of Saluzzo, in the location that originally was the Chapter Hall. After Galeazzo's death (1483) and by the will of his son Francesco Cavassa, heir to the title, the Hall has been adorned and restyled. The quadrangular chapel is characterised by a cross vault and large slightly-lowered lancet arches, based on four short masonry pillars.

A marble memorial of Galeazzo Cavassa is located on the left wall. It was realized by Matteo Sanmicheli, a sculptor active in Saluzzo since 1523, who sculpted also the great white marble entrance portal.

The tombstone is surrounded by figures of Sant'Agostino and Sant'Ambrogio, while on the opposite wall the Saints Domenico and Tommaso d'Aquino are depicted.

The Cavassas family motto *DROIT QUOY QUIL SOIT*, translatable as *Justice at any Cost*, is carved on the headstone. The sentence occurs in many other places of the Cavassas previous mansion, which currently holds the Civic Museum of Saluzzo.