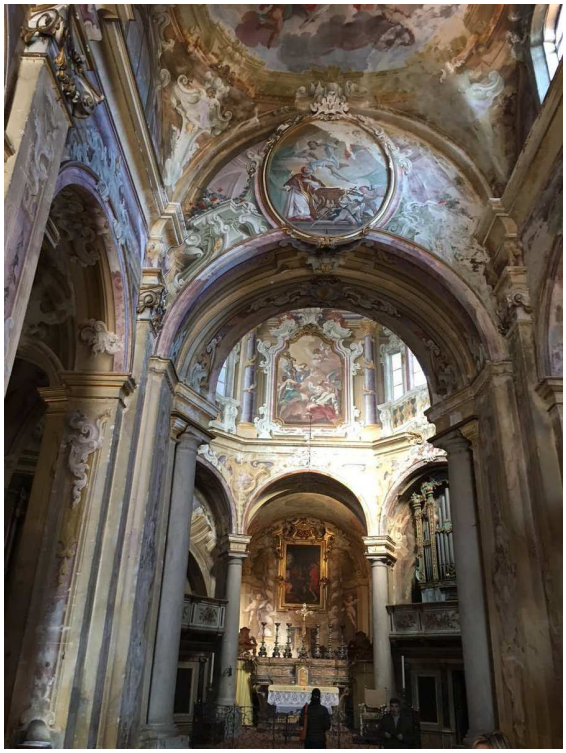
S. OMOBONO CHURCH



The small square of S. Omobono, on which the church stands, is paved with uneven cobblestone that covers a cemetery which then became a pauper grave during the plague of 1630.
Palazzo Pallavicino and Palazzo Cattaneo also overlook the square. The church, initially dedicated to S. Egidio, was later named after the saint patron of the city since in it Omobono died there during the mass celebration on November 13th 1197. The saint was buried inside the church, which it had been built around.
The church was then transformed at the end of the fifteenth century and the facade redone in 1602, decorating it with the thirteenth-century statues of red marble depicting St. Omobono and the bishop of Cremona, Sicardo, who had wanted the canonization.
The interior was completely transformed with a spectacular fresco decoration, made in 1755 by the Cremona painters Giovanni Angelo Borroni and Giovanni Battista Zaist, with architectural squares and stories of S. Omobono. The most significant part of the frescoes is certainly the dome, frescoed with the Glory of St. Omobono, extraordinary for its illusory effect, while the four panels with the Virtues of St. Omobono, painted by Borroni, at the base of the dome are more simplified and linear.
The body of S. Omobono, placed in a marble ark, remained in the church until 1614, when he was transferred, with a solemn procession, to the cathedral crypt, still today the object of popular devotion.

(from www.turismo.comune.cremona.it)