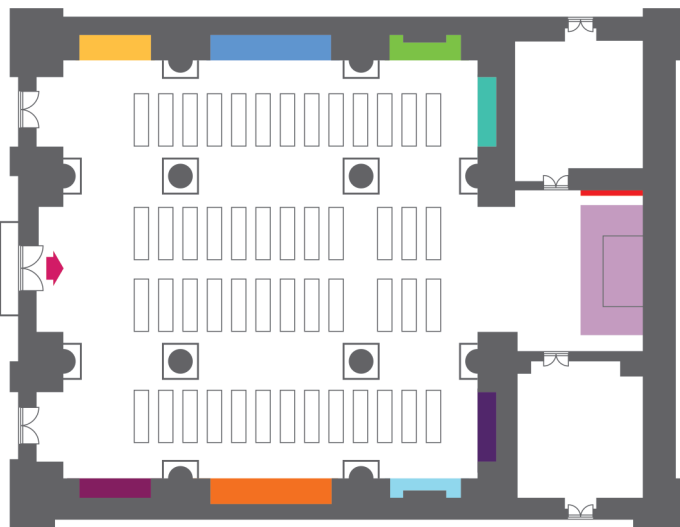


HISTORY

The Mother Church of Santa Maria is located in Largo D. Dinis, in the medieval fence. It was built in the second half of the 16th Century, in the same place of the medieval temple mentioned by Alfonso X of Castile in the "Cantigas de Santa Maria".

Around 1560, as the medieval building was in poor condition, its complete renovation began under the patronage of Cardinal Henrique. Master Pero Gomes of Estremoz directs the works of the new church, having probably followed an architectonic project by Miguel de Arruda.

In 1967 the Mother Church of Santa Maria was classified as being of Public Interest.



- 1 Baptismal Chapel
- 2 Altar of The Souls of Purgatory
- 3 Altar of St. Catherine of Alexandria
- 4 Altar of The Blessed Sacrament
- 5 Main Altar
- 6 Paintings by the Portuguese Primitives
- 7 Altar to Saint John the Baptist
- 8 Altar of The Chorus Christus
- 9 Altar of Our Lady of "Brotas"
- 10 Altar of Saint Ursula

religious tourism

Mother Church of Santa Maria



MUNICÍPIO DE
ESTREMOZ
CÂMARA MUNICIPAL
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Tel.: 268 339 200 | Fax: 268 334 010

CHURCH OF SAINT MARIA
ESTREMOZ

Opening hours:
Tuesday to Saturday: 10:00 - 12:00 and 14:30 - 17:00
Sundays: 14:30 - 17:00
Holidays: Closed

VIVE
ESTREMOZ



ARTISTIC DESCRIPTION

The Mother Church of Santa Maria is one of the best examples of the "Architecture Chã" in Alentejo, characterized by simplicity, austerity, balance of volumes and materials; in spite of the very remarkable prominence in the urban setting.

On the façade, the central portal stands out, resting on Ionian columns with striated stems, topped by a tympanum decorated with protruding pearls, showing in the centre the cross of the Order of Avis. On the top, a large oculus decorated with diamond-like ornaments.

Inside, the majestic columns in marble with Ionian capitals simulate the division of the space in three naves.

The visit starts by the left side, in the Baptismal Chapel (1) with a marble christening font and mural painting from the 16th Century attributed to José or Luís de Escovar, depicting the Archangel Michael and the Souls of Purgatory.

(2) Altar of The Souls of Purgatory and (3) Altar of St. Catherine of Alexandria, gilded woodcarving from the end of 16th Century beginning of the 17th and picture representing the Mystical Wedding of St. Catherine.

(4) Altar of the Blessed Sacrament is decorated with gilded woodcarving from the 17th Century and paintings from the end of 17th beginning of the 18th.

(5) The main altar with gilded woodcarving dates back to November 1698, by Master Francisco Correa. In the centre, the two paintings represent respectively the Assumption of the Virgin Mary to Heaven and her Coronation. On the left, (6) two paintings by the Portuguese primitives.

(7) Altar dedicated to Saint John the Baptist, 17th Century paintings with scenes of the Saint's life.

(8) Altar of The Chorpus Christus, 17th Century gilded woodcarving, Image of the Queen Saint Isabel from the 18th Century.

(9) Altar of Our Lady of "Brotas" is decorated with 16th Century mural paintings depicting the twelve Apostles, angels and two saints.

(10) On the Altar of Saint Ursula, painting from 17th Century portraying the episode of the massacre of Saint Ursula and the eleven virgin ladies that accompanied her on the boat trip to her fiancé country.

On the floor, tombstones with the Coat of Arms of noble families.