

## Heritage Choir Newsletter #22 – Rome, Italy

*It's Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, during your 2019 Rome, Italy Performance Tour. We will continue to enjoy Assisi and other historical sites....*



During your visit to Assisi you may enjoy other historical sites, such as:

### [Basilica di Santa Chiara](#)

Buttressed by flying arches on two sides, the Basilica of St Clare is decorated with pink and white stripes made out of stone from the nearby Mount Subasio. With a sole nave and two small chapels, the structure of the church is basic, with a bell tower rising behind it. It carries the name of St Clare, the other saint who lived in Assisi and who helped to make this city renowned throughout Italy and abroad.

### [Tempio di Minerva](#)

Located on one of the most stunning piazzas in Italy as well as the focal point of Assisi's politics and nightlife, Piazza del Comune, Tempio di Minerva is a temple dating back to ancient Rome which was subsequently converted to serve the Christian faith; now being the church of St Mary above Minerva. The whole façade, inclusive of the six Corinthian columns are original, which means they have survived more than 2,000 years! This temple bears testimony to the Roman civilization which acquired Assisi in 295 BC and later made it a Roman municipality.

### [Rocca Maggiore](#)

With stories about Rocca Maggiore dating back to 1174, this place is one of the best spots outside of central Assisi where tourists can enjoy a breath-taking view of the area while visiting another historical building. Located on top of a hill towering over Assisi, Rocca Maggiore enables all its visitors to take in a panoramic view of the city and of the Umbrian Valleys below, running all the way from Perugia to Spoleto. Inside the medieval building are permanent exhibitions that illustrate what life was like in the Dark Ages.

Next, we will continue to enjoy the highlights of other sites in Assisi as you enjoy dinner on your own before we return to Rome.....**to be continued in next week's Newsletter.**

**Rome "Fun Fact" #22** – Sometime in the 1st century BC a temple of Minerva, the Roman goddess of art, handicrafts and the professions, was constructed at the sacred spring. During the early Christian era the sanctuary of Minerva was destroyed, a series of churches were erected at the site, and the sacred spring stopped flowing.