

Angelo, is divided into three panels. In the first, St Gregory is represented celebrating the Holy Mass ; near him the monk Justus suffers in the midst of flames, higher up the same monk is seen born up to heaven by two angels.

The Latin inscription bears these words : St Gregory delivering by thirty masses the soul of one of his religious.

In the second panel Our Lord is depicted appearing to St Gregory whilst saying mass, and from the opened side of the Saviour a stream of blood is flowing into the chalice. This miracle is commemorated in these words : " Whilst the Pope St Gregory celebrated mass, Jesus-Christ appeared here suffering. " In the third panel St Gregory is still seen saying mass, whilst two souls are suffering in flames and another higher up, is carried away by two angels.

The inscription underneath runs thus : "Masses celebrated in this cell of St Gregory deliver the suffering souls from Purgatory." The bas-relief is finished on the left by an image of St Sebastian and on the right by that of St Roch.

*What is the popular belief on the subject of Gregorian Masses ?*

It is certain that the faithful have always attributed to the thirty Gregorian Masses, as well as to the mass offered on the altar of St Gregory, a particular efficacy for the deliverance of the departed souls, but whether this confidence is founded on a Divine promise or on a solemn indulgence granted by the Popes, or only on the deliverance of the monk Justus, it is impossible for us to say.

*What is meant by altars "ad instar"?*

The privilege attributed to the altar of St Gregory has been often extended by the Sovereign Pontiffs to other altars that are called for this reason *ad instar* or privileged altars, after the pattern of that of St Gregory, or simply altars *ad instar*. Practically these altars do not possess more advantages than those which are simply