

saint James appears Moses, pointing out the tables of the Law. Next come saint Lawrence and saint George.

In a straight line, just under Jesus-Christ, rules, in a blaze of glory, God the Holy Ghost who proceeds both from the Father and the Son. He appears surrounded by four angels holding the Holy Gospels of which he is the Inspirer. Here the heavenly scene closes.

Now, upon earth, in the middle of the bright azure of the heavens, Raphael brings out into prominence the ostensorium, which, set on the altar of the New Covenant, joints earth to heaven and forms the center, as it were, of the whole painting.

On each side, nearest to the altar, are the four great Doctors of the Latin Church. On the left of the beholder, saint Jerome, always steeped in study, holds upon his knees, with athletic vigor, an open in-folio; but saint Bernard, vested with the cope, shows to him, with both hands, the remonstrance and seems to say. "Suspend for a moment your studies and gaze on this; all is there." By the side of saint Jerome is saint Gregory, his eyes turned towards the august Sacrament. On the right the eye of the spectator meets saint Ambrose sunk in deep contemplation; his eyes and hands are lifted up towards heaven. Saint Augustine, whom he converted, is close to him and dictates his thoughts to a young man at his feet.

To these four Doctors, Raphael has added the principal illustrations of the Church. The first on the right of the spectator is Peter Lombardus, called the Master of Sentences; with a gesture full of authority, he shows to the entire assembly how the mystery of Eucharist unites the militant with the triumphant Church. Duns Scotus, the "Doctor Subtilis" is placed a little in the back ground, as if the artist seemed to convey the idea that his doctrine is not very sure on all points. But one can see and distinguish clearly pope Anacletus, who holds the martyr's palm, and pope Innocent III, whose look and attitude nobly proclaim the truth of the mystery. Behind pope Anacletus, we see saint Thomas Aquinas, the author of the hymns in honor of the Blessed Sacrament, and saint