



## **Patrimony historical pharmacist’’: Nobile Collegio Chimico Farmaceutico Universitas Aromatariorum of Rome**

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We will illustrate the origin and events that lead to the present structure of the Chemical Pharmaceutical Noble College at the Roman Forum in Rome.

The seat of the College is the temple built in 161 AD by Emperor Antoninus Pius in honour of his wife Faustina on the Via Sacra in Rome. Five centuries later the temple was transformed in a Christian church dedicated to Saint Laurence martyr. In 1429 the place was donated by pope Martin V Colonna to the guilds of Chemists, on condition that they would add to the church a hospital for needy chemists. In the following decades it would become a cultural centre for the various Scholae united in one single Universitas under a common charter (College). After the sack of Rome (1527), the church was rebuilt in 1602 to assume the role of centre of authority on pharmaceutical health care in the Papal states.

Nowadays, also because of the development works realized during 1930’s that redesigned the area completely, access to the Church is either through a side entrance or through the premises of the College, that has found a splendid location in the crypt, once the cella of the Temple of Antoninus Pius.

There we find the small, very well ordered Museum of Pharmaceutical Arts and various rooms for meetings and research always open to all Roman chemists. In other rooms, next to the Church, are located the office of the Presidency of the College and its valuable library, also open to Colleagues and Scholars.