

Piazza Navona – February 16, 2018 – Rome, Italy

By Tom Allin

Nancy in one of her late night searches found Rich Steves' online tour walks of Italy. She downloaded these to our iPhones, downloaded Goggle Maps where the tour was taking us, and we layered up with clothes and stepped outside.

The first tour we began with was Heart of Rome. This was an easy tour to do since it began less than five minutes from our front door.

First stop is Campo de' Fiori. During daylight hours the square is a large market of mostly fruits and vegetables. Of course, a different sale table caught my attention.



The square has a statue of the monk, Giordano Bruno. This guy was a rebel without a cause! Eventually his thoughts on the universe, i.e. it is infinite, the Virgin Mary wasn't a virgin, and much more led him to trial before the Roman Inquisition. The Inquisition found him guilty and he was burned at the stake in 1600. Today he represents non-conformity and freethinking Romans.



IX CIVINO MDCCCLXXXIX
A BRVNO
IL SECOLO DA LVI DIVINATO
QVI
DOVE IL ROGO ARSE

ATTUALI GIOVANI DELL'UNIVERSITA
CON ORIENTE DI VINCENZO DI M. P.

The Piazza Navona was the audio tour's next stop. The following two photographs were taken a couple of days later when we walked back to Piazza Navona but I included them because I like them.

Nancy guiding us.



And a die-hard painter. Difficult to paint in gloves and this was a glove sort of day.



We entered the piazza at the north end.



The first of three fountains is located here. This fountain is Fontana del Moro.



Different day, different angle, and different light.



At times I thought Piazza Navona was café central for Rome.



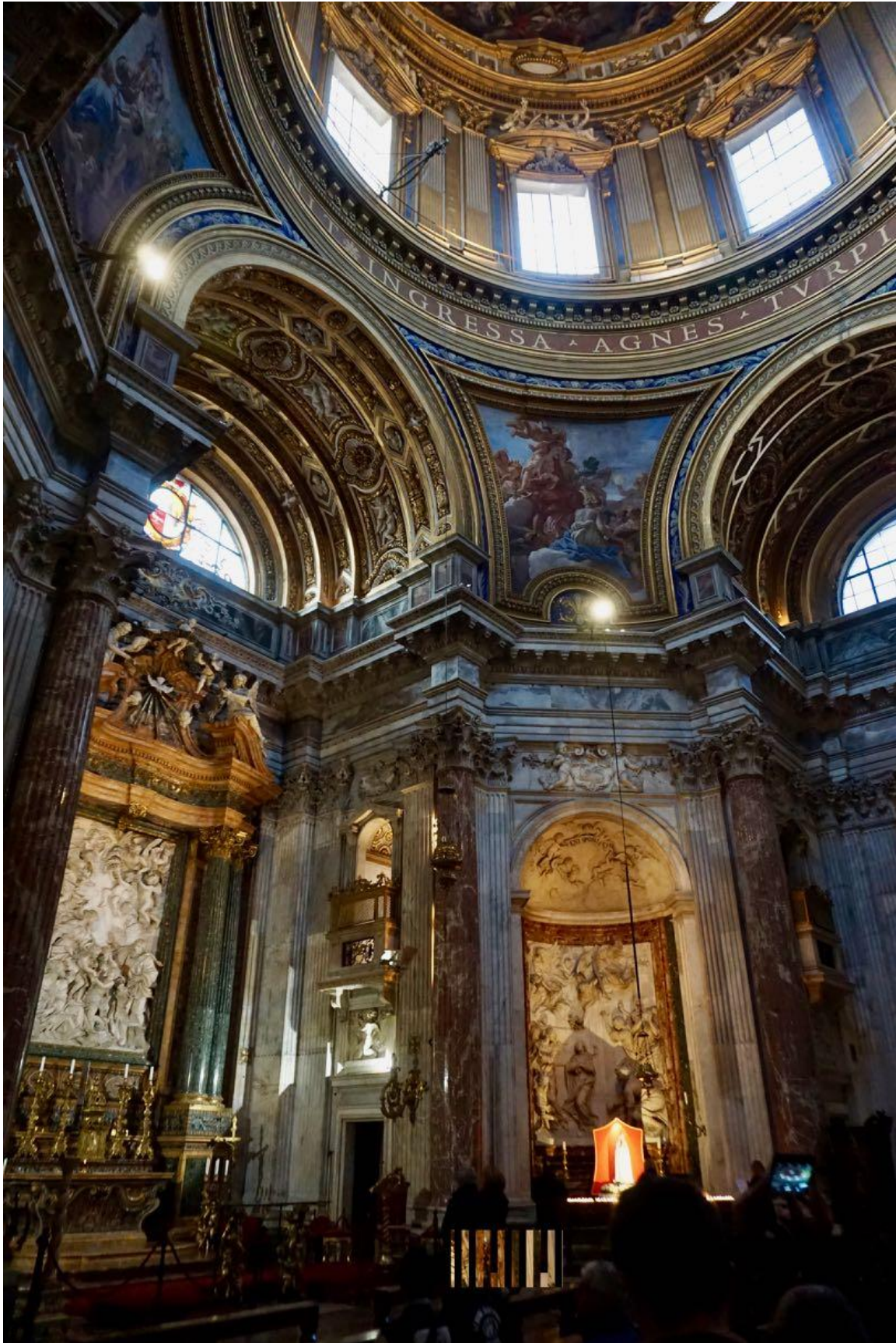
Bernini's Fountain of the Four Rivers is in the center of the piazza. This is one of the personifications of the four rivers.



On the west side of the piazza and almost directly across from the Fountain of the Four Rivers is the Church of Sant'Agnese in Agone.



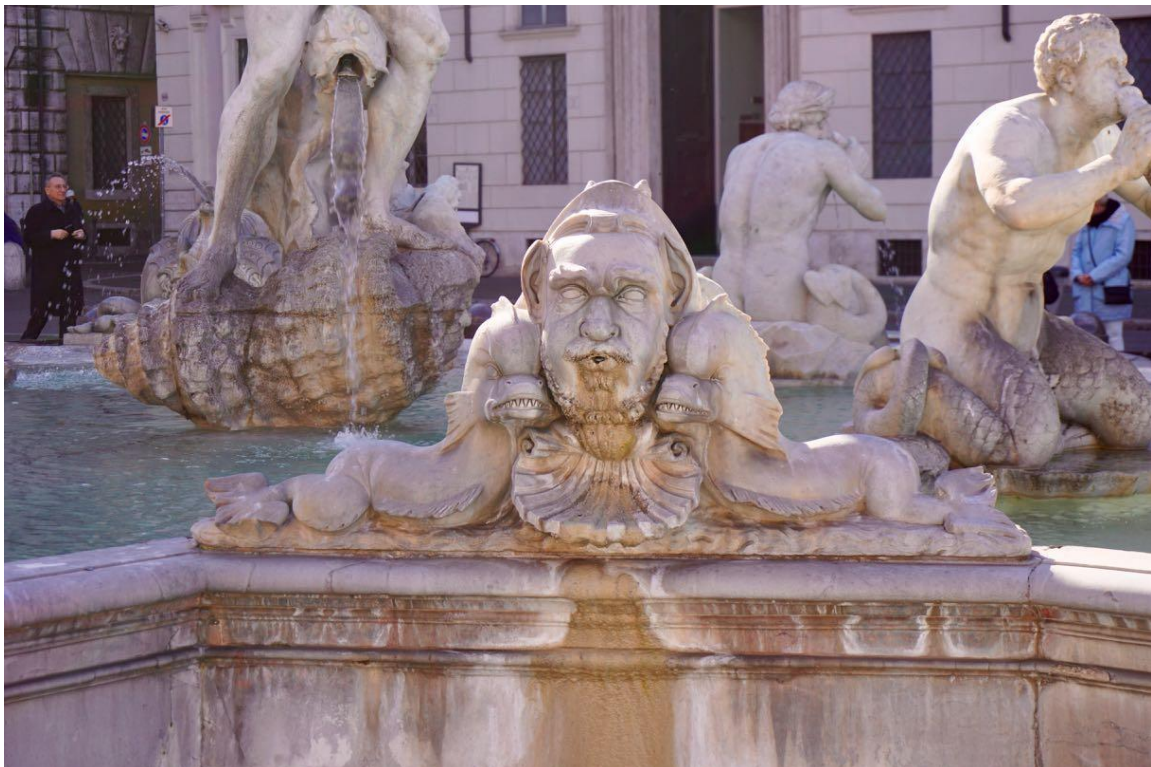
It appears much larger from the outside. This isn't to say it is a small church but not as large as I thought before walking into it.



This alcove with Saint Sebastian was a *total* work of art. The use of different marble in the columns, surrounds, and background all added to its beauty. And here I thought as a contractor the only thing marble is used for is cladding a building, an entry floor or a counter top.



At the southern end of Piazza Navona is the third fountain, Fountain of the Moor. Nancy and I had a great time looking at the outer ring of Tritons and the non-sweet looking dolphins.





On our way to the next plaza and stop on Steves' audio tour we found this.



More walking stories to come, then museum stories, more night walks – Rome is a great city to explore.