**SANTA MARIA IN VALLE PORCLANETA (Testo tradotto)**

The church of Santa Maria, a real jewel of Middle Age's art, lays in the lone valley nested between Rosciolo and the west side of Mount Velino, a place known as Valle Porclaneta since the most ancient times. The story of this church dates back at somewhere before 1000 a.D. but the place experienced its heyday when Benedettini arrived, during the second half of the XI century, and the importance of the church grew. The building, divided into three aisles, was completely refashioned and a monastery was added to it. There is a note, inside the church, dating back to 1080 where you can still read the name of the one who made it possible – Nicolò – and who was buried inside the church itself. Other well known local artists worked here and left precious works of art: the beautiful frescoes; the ambo by Nicodemo, enriched by bas-relief and sculptures; the ciborioum resting on four elegant small columns; the iconostas featuring a most rare wood architrave. The church has had its ups and downs, was attacked by time and disputed between Marsi Bishops, Farfa friars and Regno di Napoli's Kings. 1915 earthquake finally almost destroyed it and it was only in recent years that it was restored and re-gained its splendour.