The Dossal was painted on wood with 8 episodes from Clare’s life by the “Maestro di Santa Chiara” (1283). The sequence proceeds on the left from bottom to top:

1. The young Clare receives an olive branch from Bishop Guido in the Cathedral on Palm Sunday, March 18, 1212.

2. Having run away from home, accompanied by her nurse, Clare arrives at the Portiuncula, where Francis and his Brothers receive her.

3. Francis cuts Clare’s hair; she is clothed in the Franciscan habit at the Portiuncula, establishing the foundation for the II Order of St. Francis.

4. Clinging to the altar, Clare implores her father to refrain from trying to take her back home by force.

5. Agnes runs away from home to join her sister Clare; her relatives tried to force her to return home.

6. Because of Clare’s faith, she receives from God the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves.

7. The final moments of St. Clare’s life when the Virgin Mary appeared to her.

8. The death and funeral of St. Clare, celebrated by Pope Innocent IV in 1253.

[Adapted from Sr. Anna Marie Covely, O.S.C. & Sr. Vickie Griner, O.S.C. during 2015 Franciscans of the Prairie Regional Retreat by Deacon Dave & Thérèse Ream, O.F.S., Revised July 2017]