

## Ceiling of the Sistine Chapel

### **Vaulting cells:**

The Forebears of Christ

- 1) *King Josias with his Mother and Amon his Father*
- 2) *King Zorobabel with his Mother and Father*
- 3) *King Ezekias with his Watchful Mother and Drowsy Father*
- 4) *King Ozias with his Mother and Joram his Father*
- 5) *King Asa with his Drowsy Mother and his Father*
- 6) *The Mother of King Roboam with King Solomon behind Her*
- 7) *King Jesse and his Parents*
- 8) *King Solomon and his Mother*

Condivi says that a single theme is represented in both the lunettes and the vaulting cells, the royal ancestors of Christ. According to more recent interpretations, which do not accept, unlike Michelangelo's biographer, that the inscriptions in the lunettes refer both to the vaulting cell and to the lunette underneath, they depict Jewish families waiting for the Messiah.

### **Lunettes**

The inscriptions in the middle derive from the Gospel according to Saint Matthew, where the royal forebears of Christ are listed from Abraham onward.