

Blessed Anne Marie Taigi  
born 29 May 1769, Siena, Italy  
died 9 June 1937, Rome, Italy

"I lived for forty-eight years or so with this saintly soul and never did I hear from her a word of impatience or discord." So Dominic Taigi testified to investigators for the canonisation of his wife Anne Marie.

"I used to go home often dead tired and a little distraught after my day's work and difficulties with my employees," he recalled, "and she would restore my serenity of mind." (When Dominic was "a little distraught," he was known to throw an armchair through their apartment window.)

Anne Marie was five years old when her parents came to Rome as servants for the noble Chiga family. Her mother hoped that her beautiful only child would make a good match and recoup the family fortune, but Anne Marie fell in love with Dominic, a porter in the Chiga household. Dominic was hot-tempered, but he adored his young wife. After the birth of her first child, in 1790, Anne Marie began to see a brilliant light, surrounded by thorns, only visible to her. She believed that it represented Eternal Wisdom, in whose light she foresaw future events and read the secrets of hearts. She became a Trinitarian tertiary\*, and would have liked to live with Dominic as brother and sister, but there he drew the line. While raising four children on Dominic's modest wages, Anne Marie became an advisor to popes and cardinals, a counselor to her neighbours, and a miracle worker before and after her death. Her incorrupt body is venerated as San Crisogono in Rome, and she is commemorated on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June.

### **The Genius of Anne Marie Taigi:**

*Anne Marie refused to profit from her gifts, assuring her visitors: "I serve God, and he is richer than you."*

### **Reflection:**

*"You husbands should live with your wives in understanding, showing honour to the weaker female sex, since we are joint heirs of the gift of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered."*

1 Peter 3.7

\*Trinitarian Tertiary is a layperson who has received "third orders" to a Monastic community. They do not live in community yet are permitted to wear the habit of the order, and continue in good works in the community.

Source:

Gallick, Sarah The Big Book of Women Saints p. 174