

Blessed Anna Maria Taigi

1769-1837

PURGATORY

The Blessed Anna Maria Taigi was born in Siena on May 29, 1769 and was baptized on the following day. Due to the financial setbacks of her parents, at the age of six she moved to Rome, where she was entrusted to the care of the Religious Teachers Filippini in order to receive a good education. To help her needy parents, she did the most humble jobs.

She was given as bride to Domenico Taigi, a rough and violent man. She suffered much during the 49 years of marriage, in which she had seven children, three of whom died prematurely. Yet she was able to endure all the difficulties with patient love.

Since a young child she devoted herself to prayer and penance, trying to live constantly in the grace of God. She was very devout to the Most Holy Trinity, the Most Holy Sacrament and the Passion of Christ. She entered the Third Order of Trinitarians on December 26, 1808. Many were the charisms with which she was gifted. For 47 years she saw in front of her a luminous sun that showed her the state of souls and the events of the world.

In this way she understood the fate of the deceased, and also the duration and the reason for their suffering in Purgatory. One day she saw a deceased priest, who had saved himself, because in life he had endured an annoying beggar who was constantly asking him for alms! From this act of patience other occasions came for him to practice this virtue.

She saw also another priest, who in life was esteemed very much for his

sermons and his zeal, but on the contrary to what people believed, he was lying in Purgatory, having to expiate many punishments. The reason was because he had sought his own glory instead of the glory of God. The Blessed also noticed in Purgatory a woman friend, who in life had experienced some heavenly insights, but she was not reserved and revealed them to others.

The Blessed had also the vision of monks who were in Purgatory: one had died in a state of sanctity, but he had given too much importance to his own judgment, the other one, a sought-after spiritual director, had allowed himself to be distracted by many things instead of concentrating in his priestly service.

Blessed Taigi came to know also the fate of a count she had met, dead for only two days, who notwithstanding his disorderly and sinful life was saved, because he had forgiven one of his enemies. However he had to suffer the punishments of Purgatory for the same number of years that he had spent in worldly pleasure. A layman esteemed for his virtues or for what they were believed to be, was condemned to a painful Purgatory because he had always adulated influential and powerful people. The Blessed also foretold the day of death of Leo XII, as in fact it occurred on February 10, 1829. Some years later, she saw the soul of the deceased Pope like a ruby that was not yet completely purified by the flames.

