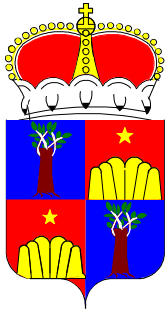


Chigi Albani della Rovere



Description of Arms :

Ecartelé : aux 1 et 4, d'azur à l'olivier à quatre branches passés en sautoir d'argent; aux 2 et 3, de gueules au rocher de six coupeaux d'or, surmonte d'une étoile à six rais..

Inquartato : nel 1° e 4°, d'azzurro alla roverse stradicata e coi rami passati in doppia croce di Sant'Andrea d'oro ; nel 2° e 3°, di rosso al monte di sei cime d'oro, sormontato da una stella di otto raggi dello stesso.

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Principal Title : Prince Chigi Albani della Rovere.

Creation : See text.

Subsidiary Titles : See text.

Family Name : Chigi Albani della Rovere.

Family History : It is a matter of great pride to Italian families to have produced a pope from its numbers. The mighty Caracciolo clan, for example, for all its titles and honours cannot make this claim - a saint and several cardinals, but no pope.

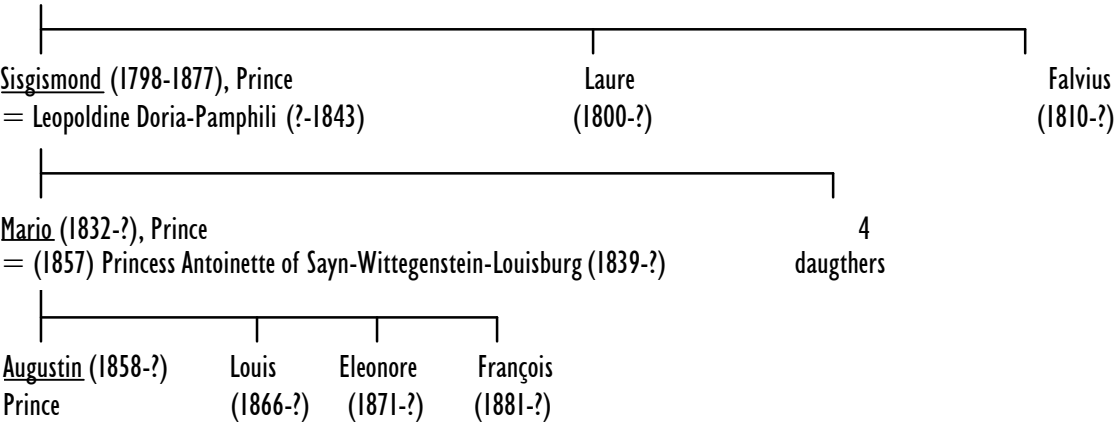
The Chigi family comes down from lines that have produced Alexander VII (Fabio Chigi, 1655-1667), Clement XI (Gianfrancesco Albani, 1700-1721) and Julius II (Giuliano della Rovere, 1503-1513).

Dating back from at least 1100, the Chigi family are mostly associated with Siena, of which they were patricians in 1377. It was Julius II who authorised them to join their name and arms with those of his family. By 1659, they had become barons of the Holy Roman Empire, having been made Prince of Farnese, the year before, and Prince of Campignano, two years later. The titles of Duke di Ariccia and Duke di Fornello followed in 1663 - at the hands of Alexander VII. The exceptional honour of being appointed Marshal of the Church and Guardian of the Conclave came in 1712. This was from Clement XI. It was partly a result of a marriage, contracted in 1735, between the two families as a result of which the Chigi family inherited the name, arms and titles of the Albani family. Amongst these titles was that of Prince of Soriano. They became Roman princes in 1854 but were not accorded the right to be addressed as *don* and *donna* until 1929.

After the war, Prince Chigi was head of the Knights of Malta. As a result of a badly judged piece of business, the knights were threatened with bankruptcy and union with the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre. All the countries with Maltese chapters were required to send two delegates to Rome. The knights issued bulls and so did the Holy See, reminding the knights that, even though they considered themselves a separate, sovereign power, their legitimacy came from the Pope. It was Prince Chigi who guided the organisation through these difficult times and saved the Order of Malta.

Chigi Albani
della Rovere

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Prince SIGISMONDO CHIGI
ALBANI DELLA ROVERE