

## **St. Catherine of Siena Feast Day is Today!**

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today is a special day of remembrance for me. When I went to study theology in Rome, I spent my first Summer in Siena trying to learn Italian. What a blessing it was to spend that time in Siena; going to the monastery that Catherine established and praying in the church where her head is displayed. St. Catherine is a great woman in the life of the Church. God had invited her, in a special way, to be his bride. In giving herself to Christ completely, she was mystically married to Him. Along with that intimacy, she also received the stigmata, the five wounds of Christ, mystically suffering with Jesus.

April 29 is the feast day for St. Catherine, who is the patroness against fire, illness, miscarriages, people ridiculed for their faith, sexual temptation, and nurses. St. Catherine was born during the outbreak of the plague in Siena, Italy on March 25, 1347. As we deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, let us ask for the intercession of St. Catherine to help all who are affected by it in our world today.

There are many articles that you can find on the life of St. Catherine of Siena. I'm including a couple of links to articles that I read today. I encourage you to read them and any others that you may come across. How blessed we are to have such great saints to inspire us.

<https://www.catholic.org/news/national/story.php?id=68685>

[https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint\\_id=9](https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=9)

St. Catherine of Siena, pray for us. Jesus, I Trust in You! Please keep praying the rosary every day. May God continue to bless each of you and all your loved ones.

In Christ,

Fr. Dan