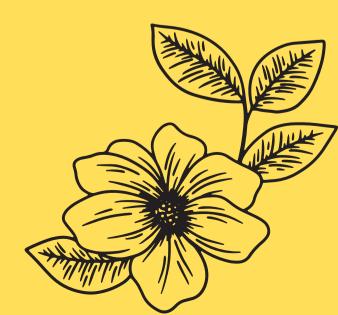


St. Catherine of Siena





Catherine was the youngest child of a large family. She was very spiritual as a child, and had a special vision from God. In this vision, the Lord appeared to her and blessed her. After receiving this she felt the Lord calling her to a special work...but she didn't know what it was yet. So she prayed and prepared herself for whatever it was.

Even though her parents wanted her to marry, she decided to become a nun. She definitely had a lot of temptations but she was able to overcome them with constant prayer. She was very wise and often gave good advice - so much that civil leaders and the Pope came to her for advice!

And it was good that the Pope trusted her! The Popes had been wrongly living in France instead of Rome. Catherine plead with Pope Gregory XI, and prayed that he would return to Rome - he listened to her and went back to Rome