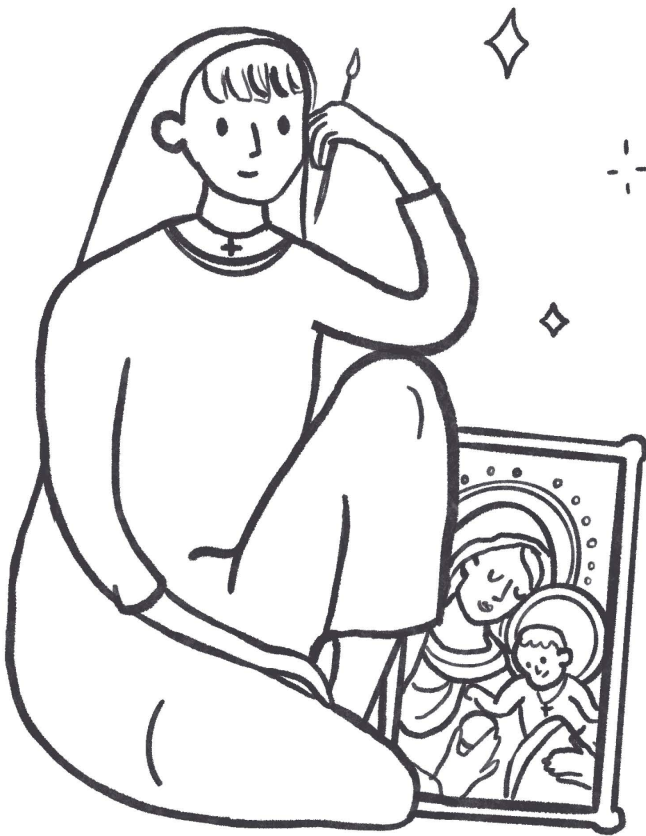


St. Catherine of Bologna



“Artistic talent is a gift from God and whoever discovers it in himself has a certain obligation: to know that he cannot waste this talent, but must develop it.”
 - St. John Paul II

In 1413, St. Catherine of Bologna was born into a noble family and received an exceptional education. During the Renaissance, women were only allowed to learn to read, write, play music or draw from their fathers, from nuns, or if they were born into a wealthy family. So Catherine was very fortunate. She excelled in Latin and the viola, but most of all, in painting.

As a young girl Catherine felt a pull towards religious life. When she was 13 she joined the convent. While there, she enjoyed her daily tasks of baking, cleaning and caring for the animals. Six years later, Catherine founded a monastery for her order, the Poor Clares. Though it was out of her comfort zone, she rose to a leadership position and opened a second convent.

Throughout her life she continued her love of painting, viola, illumination, poetry and spiritual writing. Her strong faith and many visions inspired her artwork, which included many paintings of God, Mary, Jesus and the saints.

After she died, an unusual, sweet smell rose from her burial site. So, the authorities reopened her grave and found that this sweet smell was merely a sign – her whole body was incorrupt!

Pray through the intercession of St. Catherine for creative guidance.

CUT THIS PAGE IN HALF TO HANG YOUR MASTERPIECE ON THE FRIDGE OR WALL!

G A R T I S T T O E T T
 T N T H T W R I T I N G
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- artist
- bologna
- catherine
- illumination
- latin
- nun
- painting
- poetry
- viola
- writing