

# ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA 2017



My dear Sisters:

For us, the saints of the Order are always examples, models and intercessors who illumine and guide us in our journey and our Dominican spirituality.

During this month, we wish to delve into the figure of St. Catherine of Siena who, as Pope Benedict XVI said, referring earlier to the men and women Saints whom the Lord raised to shake the minds and hearts causing conversion and renewal: Catherine is one of these people and she also speaks to us today and urges us to walk boldly towards holiness so that we may become disciples of the Lord in a fuller way. "(General Audience, 24 November 2010)

*If we look at St. Catherine, we see in her a great woman, fully human and fully of God and of the Church. A feminine face, who with its beauty, firmness and tenderness was concerned with the unity of the Church, according to the charism of the Dominican Order to which she belonged, being a great promoter of reconciliation.*

*This woman, inspired by God, never ceased to obey His voice, in works and words, always keeping her gaze focused on the good and unity of the Church. Her life and her thoughts made her a great icon of what it means to be a Dominican.*

*In this month of April, in a special way, and continuing with the quote from Pope Benedict XVI: "We learn from Saint Catherine of Siena, to love with courage, in an intense and sincere way, Christ and the Church".*

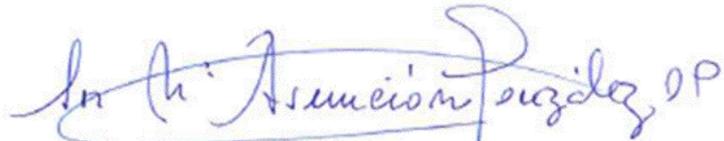
Therefore, let us make ours the words of St. Catherine that we can read in the "Dialogue of Divine Providence" as the conclusion of the chapter that speaks of Christ-bridge: " In mercy you cleansed us in the blood; in mercy you kept company with your creatures. Oh, mad lover! It was not enough for you to take on our humanity, you had to die as well...Oh, mercy!

My heart is engulfed with the thought of you: for wherever I turn my thoughts I find nothing but mercy!”

This strong and clairvoyant woman must impel us so that, as Dominicans, we will always be bearers of the mercy of God in favor, especially of the most needy, as Pope Francisco insists, while impelling the unity of the Church which is a community of faith and life.

Let us pray for our communities to be communicators of joy and bearers of peace.

With my best wishes on this feast of our sister, Saint Catherine,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Sr. Ma. Asunción González Feijóo, O.P." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, decorative flourish at the end.

Sr. Ma. Asunción González Feijóo, O.P.  
Prioress General