

ST. BERNARDINE OF SIENA

Feast: May 20

Patronage: advertising,
public relations, and
speaking

"Whenever the divine favour chooses someone to receive a special grace, or to accept a lofty vocation, God adorns the person chosen with all the gifts of the Spirit needed to fulfil the task at hand."

In 1400, during a devastating plague in Siena, a young man arrived at the city's main hospital. The epidemic claimed up to twenty lives daily, leaving a shortage of caregivers. Despite being healthy, the twenty-year-old volunteered to assist. He recruited other young men to help care for the sick. For four months, Bernardine and his group tirelessly tended to patients, also improving hospital conditions. Bernardine only fell ill from exhaustion after the epidemic subsided.

