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Thérèse of Lisieux

Little Flower of Love

Also known as Thérèse of the Child Jesus 1873–1897 Born in Alençon, France Feast Day: October 1 Family Connection: Sisters

Text by Barbara Yoffie Illustrated by Katherine A. Borgatti



Dedication

To my family: my parents Jim and Peg, my husband Bill, our son Sam and daughter-in-law Erin, and our precious grandchildren Ben, Lucas, and Andrew

To all the children I have had the privilege of teaching throughout the years.

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Louis and Zélie Martin lived in the small town of Alençon, France. They had five beautiful daughters named Marie, Pauline, Leonie, Celine, and Thérèse. Thérèse was the baby of the family. They all loved little Thérèse!

She would laugh and play with her sisters. Celine and Thérèse played in the garden. They would pick flowers and sit in the soft grass. "Flowers are so pretty. Let's take some to Mother," said Thérèse. They ran into the house and gave their mother flowers—and a big hug.

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The Martin house was full of happiness and love. The family went to church together. And they prayed together. Louis and Zélie Martin knew their family was a precious gift from God. At night they would pray, "Thank you God, for our wonderful children."

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The girls' days were filled with schoolwork, study, and chores. They spent many happy times together singing, reading, and playing. But there were sad times, too. When Thérèse was only four years old, her mother got very sick and died. They missed her very much. "God will help us," Louis told his daughters.

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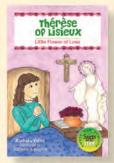
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