

Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus



In Advance

Gather supplies, display the Saint Poster, and stock your presentation area. Study pages 10–11 of the *Finding God Together* guide for general directions on facilitating the Saint Station, which should last 30 minutes. Use the following directions to introduce your saint.

Welcome

Welcome participants and introduce yourself. Invite participants to introduce themselves.

Direct the group's attention to the poster and introduce Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus. Invite children to share what they see on the poster.

Ask: *Why do you think Saint Thérèse is holding flowers?* (Answers will vary.)

Say: *Today we are going to learn about Saint Thérèse. Saint Thérèse always said yes to God. We call her the Little Flower of Jesus. Every yes she said to God was like a petal of love.*

Carry Out the Activity



Read aloud the following information:

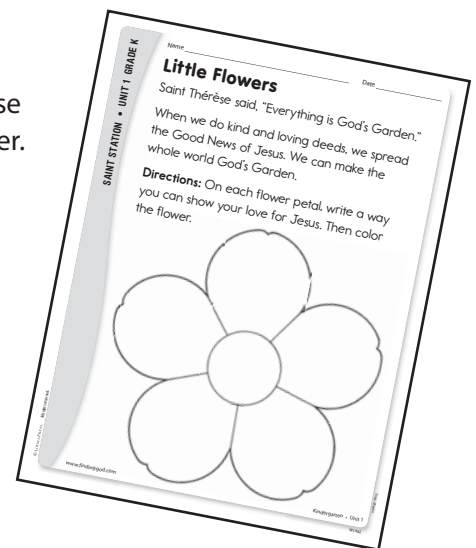
Say: *Thérèse was born in France in 1873. She dreamed of doing great things for God. She wanted to be a missionary in faraway places. But she wasn't in good health. Thérèse became a nun and found small ways to love and serve Jesus. She is a role model for us today.*

Ask: *What are examples of small ways you can love and serve Jesus?* (smile, say hello, be nice to people, obey my parents)

Say: *Thérèse showed her love for God in small ways. She did small things for others. She was kind and loving. She called this and other good deeds her "little way."*

Materials

- Pages 10–11 of the *Finding God Together: An Intergenerational Events Guide: Saint Stations*
- Poster of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus
- Copies of the Blackline Master (go to www.loyolapress.com/IGFE)
- Art supplies



Directions for Saint Station Leader

Arrange participants into small groups. Distribute the Blackline Master and other supplies. Invite adults to help children complete their flowers.

Say: *Saint Thérèse did not go out into the world to preach and teach. Instead, she showed those around her how to love God in small ways.*

Ask: *Who are some people who show you how to love God? (Answers will vary.)* Invite volunteers to lead a discussion about how these people serve the Kingdom of God.

Wrap-Up

Bring the activity to an end and prepare the participants for prayer.

Say: *Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus promised to send a shower of roses to earth from heaven. That means she promised to spend her time in heaven praying for us. We can ask her to help us say yes to God.*

Invite participants to fold their hands and bow their heads. Pray the Sign of the Cross together. Pause for a moment and then pray aloud the prayer as the participants pray silently.



Loving God, we thank you for showing us the "little way" of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus. Help us follow her example. May we do little things with great love. Amen.

