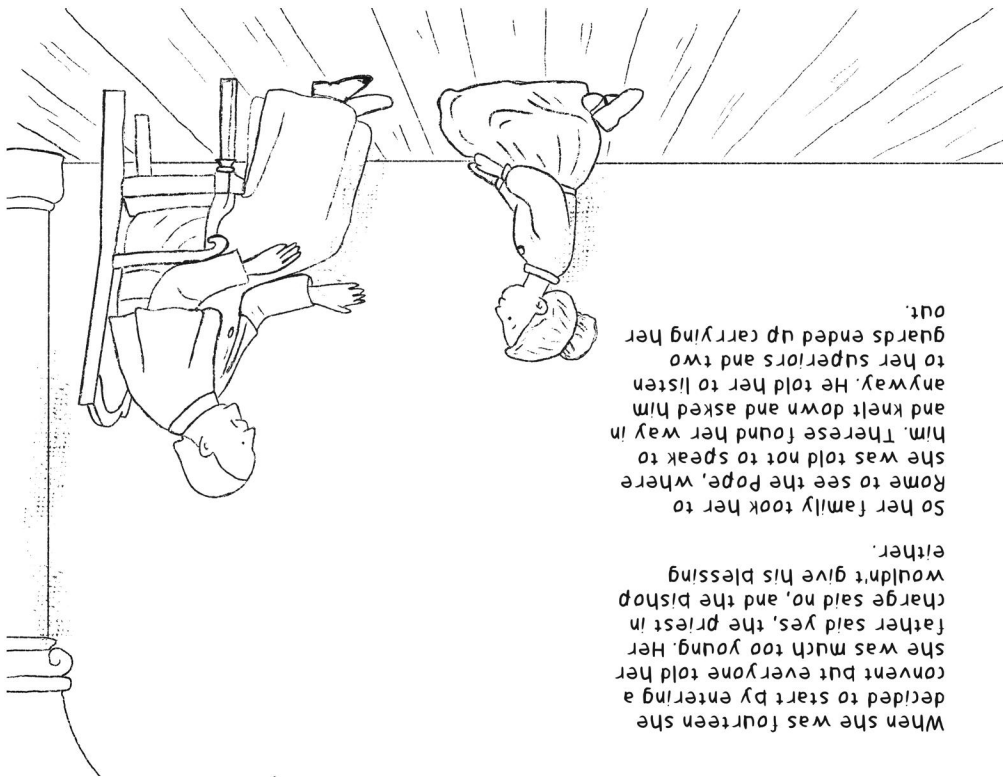
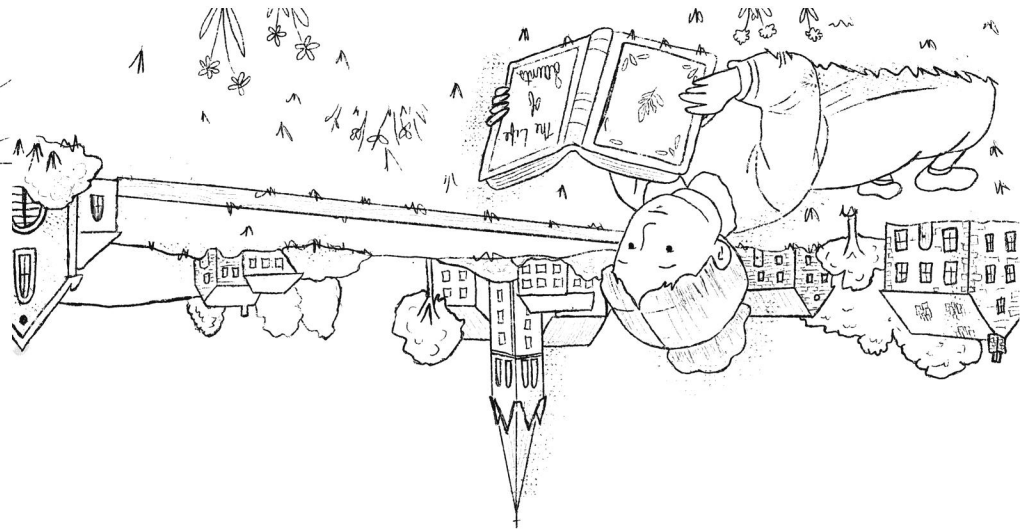




The next year the bishop finally said yes, and Therese entered the convent at fifteen. Inside there were no oceans and no kings. There was sweeping, and laundry, and soup, and one nun who rattled her rosary during the silence in a way that made Therese want to scream.

So she decided that if she could not do big things, she would do very small things with very great love. She smiled at the nun who bothered her most. She swept the floors like they were the floors of a palace. She called it her Little Way.

When she was fourteen she decided to start by entering a convent but everyone told her she was much too young. Her father said yes, the priest in charge said no, and the bishop wouldn't give his blessing either. So her family took her to Rome to see the Pope, where she was told not to speak to him. Therese found her way in and knelt down and asked him anyway. He told her to listen to her superiors and two guards ended up carrying her out.



Therese Martin grew up in a small town in France, the youngest of five sisters. She wanted to be a saint like the ones in her books, the big kind, with oceans and kings in them.

Feast day: October 1st

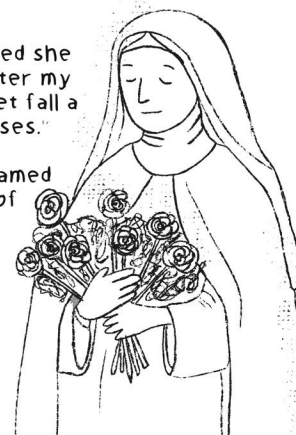
She's the patron saint of missionaries even though she never went anywhere.

People call her the Little Flower.

She died at 24, and her notebook became a book, *Story of a Soul*, that traveled the whole world.

Before she died she promised: "After my death, I will let fall a shower of roses."

The Church named her a Doctor of the Church, one of only four women ever.



ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX

