

MORE PRESENTS FOR GOD



This is the last story about Thérèse Martin. She kept on making presents for God, and finally she gave *herself* to God. Now we call her Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus.



HERESE slept in the same room as her sister Celine. Celine used to tidy up and make Therese's bed. Now Therese tried to get to the room first after breakfast. She made both beds. She hung up her own things and Celine's too. She did all the hanging up and fixing by herself. Then she slipped her hand into her pocket and pulled a bead. Another present for God!





HERESE used to be a real cry-baby sometimes. Everything made her cry.

One day she heard her father say, “Therese is such a spoiled baby!”

Therese wanted to cry when she heard that, but she held back her tears and made herself smile. Then she slipped her hand in her pocket and pulled a bead. Another present for God! And Therese was never a cry-baby after that.





HERESE was growing older and bigger and wiser. One day she said: “Celine, I don’t waste anything anymore. I do *everything* for God now, to tell Him I love Him. Even things I like to do, like watering the tulips, are presents for God, too.”





SOMETIMES Therese was very stubborn. She *had* to have her own way. One day when Celine gave in very sweetly, Therese saw her take out her beads and pull one.

Therese said to herself, “Next time *I’ll* give in so I can make a present for God.”

And she did. She stopped being a stubborn, selfish little girl.





WHEN Therese was fifteen years old, she wanted to give her whole self to God for a present. She told her father. He was glad, because he knew God would be pleased to have his Therese in a convent.

