

SACRED STORY

THE STORY OF MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA (DIED SEPT. 5, 1997)

LESSON NOTES

**FOCUS: MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA CARED FOR THE SICK
AND POOR FOR GOD.**

THE MATERIAL

- **LOCATION: THE MYSTERY OF PENTECOST SHELF, THIRD SHELF, BESIDE ST. AUGUSTINE**
- **PIECES: MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA BOOKLET, A SARI LIKE SHE WORE (WHITE WITH BLUE TRIM) WITH A CROSS PINNED TO IT, A BOWL & CLOTH, A WOODEN PLAQUE WITH THE IMAGE OF A DOVE AND THE WORD "PEACE."**
- **UNDERLAY: GREEN FELT**

BACKGROUND

Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu was born of Albanian parents in Skopje in 1910. When she entered the Loreto convent in Ireland she took the name Teresa from Theresa of Lisieux at the age of 18. The nuns sent her to their convent in India where she took her final vows in 1937. In 1948 she left the convent to serve the poorest people in Calcutta. She won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979. The nuns who continue her work are known as the Sisters of Charity. Teresa was beatified by the Roman Catholic Church in 2003, but has not yet been canonized, so she has no day of remembrance.

NOTES ON THE MATERIAL

Mother Teresa of Calcutta's story sits on a small, shallow tray about 8" square, with sides about 2" deep. It has a groove in the front to slide the booklet in so the children can see it when they approach the Mystery of Pentecost shelf.

The booklet is 4.25" x 5.5". The cover has an image of Teresa on it that matches the figure used in the introductory lessons on the communion of saints. The second page has a map of the world, with India, Teresa's home, highlighted and labeled. It also has an image of the flag of India. The third page has a time line beginning with the year 1 AD and ending with the year 2000 AD with an arrow indicating when Teresa lived. The rest of the booklet has the story of the life of Teresa.

Behind the booklet in the tray are placed the objects used to help us remember Teresa's life: a sari like she wore, a bowl and cloth and a wooden plaque with an image of a dove on it and the word *Peace*. The underlay is a 12" square piece of green cloth and is folded on top of the objects.



MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA TRAY

A NOTE ABOUT DATES FOR THE SAINTS

There is scholarly debate about the dates for the lives of many saints. We have had to make decisions about these dates for pedagogical reasons. We hope the children will continue to learn more about the saints all their life long, including their dates. The basis for the dates used in the saints lessons is how they are remembered liturgically. This has been established by custom in the Roman Catholic, Anglican and other traditions. We usually follow the dates that are found in the Episcopal publication called *Lesser Feasts and Fasts, 2006*. This book is also a reference for remembering saints for most days in the year and for children (and adults) to continue to learn more about the saints, using this liturgical orientation.

You can order this book at www.Cokesbury.com
or by calling: 1-800-672-1789.