

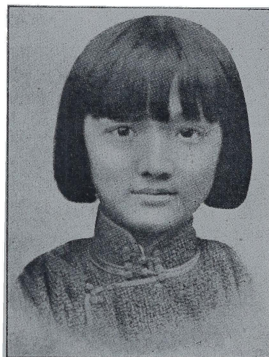
Little Saints

THERE are children who are born with a deep love for God. Throughout their brief lives, they are so good and kind that they seem like little angels to those around them. They suffer patiently, looking forward to the time when they could be with the Lord. After their death, their examples live on, and very often, they are remembered by the Christian Church and recognized as saints.

There are several saintly children in the history of Christianity. Among them is a Christian-born little maiden of ancient Rome, St. Agnes. Agnes developed a love for God early in life. She vowed that she would never shame herself before God. She promised to remain pure and clean in the sight of the Lord. In spite of many dangers, she kept her promise, and when she was martyred at the age of twelve, she faced her Creator without sin or fault. This year, on her feast day, two chaste lambs were brought from the church erected in her honor and given to the Holy Father in the Vatican. These two lambs will be taken care of very carefully in the Vatican, then their wool will be shorn and made into the *pallia* later on. The *pallia* are cloaks or robes which the Pope gives to archbishops and other church officials as symbol of office.

Younger than Agnes is little St. Hugh of Lincoln. At the age of 9, he was crucified or nailed on the cross, dying the cruel death of our Savior. It is supposed that Jews had killed little Hugh. This happened in 1255. Now, hundreds of years afterwards, the death of little Hugh is recognized as a sacrifice that had earned a saint's halo for him.

In our own century, there are several candidates for saints. Bonaventure Schwinn, a Benedictine, mentioned them in a book. Anne de Guigne is one of them. She was introduced in Rome by Canon Mugnier of Paris. She was a descendant of St. Louis, King of France. She died at the age of 11, in 1922, "in the odor of sanctity."



Marie Therese Wang

Marie Filippetto was another saintly child. She suffered patiently for the love of God. Little Maria was born in 1912, and she died in 1927.

Antoñito Martinez Herrera, another child who lived in saintly ways, was born in 1920. On his death nine years later, he was known and remembered for his humility and charity—virtues that very few children possess.

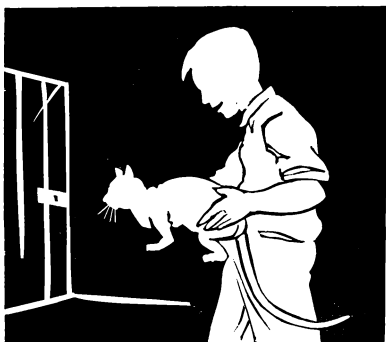
Many of you are perhaps as young as Guy de Fontgalland when he died. Guy was born of a rich family. He made his First Communion when he was seven years old. He was a very religious child, and his ambition was to be a missionary priest. He was not able to realize this humble ambition, however, for he believed that he heard a voice say: "My little Guy, I shall take you; you will die young; you will not be my priest; I desire to make you my angel." He died when he was twelve years old.

In non-Catholic China, a rare flower of Christianity bloomed in Marie Therese Wang. She is called the "Rose of China." Marie Therese was named by her parents Ta-jun, meaning "All Gracious." When she was eleven years old and just out of elementary school, she was found danger-

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Kiko's Adventures

by gilmo baldovino



LITTLE SAINTS

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rously ill of tuberculosis. Her parents put her under the care of the Sisters of St. Michael's Hospital. Ta-jun became interested in Catholicism. She was baptized in 1929. She chose the name of Marie Therese, in honor of the Little Flower of Lisieux whose life is similar to hers. During the 33 months that little Marie Therese was a Christian on earth, she was an example of a virtuous saint. She did not care for missals, because she said: "Books

are a distraction to me. I have so many things to tell Him." At 12, she was eager to become a Daughter of Charity. About two years later, she promised to remain always pure and good.

Even when death was approaching, Marie Therese thought of others. She prayed for two sick people, one ill with cholera, the other with tuberculosis. She was able to cure them. She also helped another die happily, while another escaped from cruel men through her aid. Through one more miracle, she was

able to secure the payment of a debt of \$25,000 for someone. She never ceased to think of God, feeling His goodness, though she knew very little about Him. When she finally went to rest with her Shepherd, those whom she left behind did not forget her. Now, more than three years after her death, Rev. Basil Stegmann of the Benedictine order names eight cases which are considered miracles that she had performed. These miracles, as well as the rare beauty of her last years on earth, are convincing proofs that the "Rose of China" is a real little saint.