

SACRED STORY

THE STORY OF ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA (REMEMBERED APRIL 29, DIED IN 1380)

LESSON NOTES

FOCUS: ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA SHOWED PEOPLE HOW TO BE FAIR FOR GOD.

THE MATERIAL

- **LOCATION: THE MYSTERY OF PENTECOST SHELF, SECOND SHELF, NEXT TO ST. PATRICK**
- **PIECES: ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA BOOKLET, A LILY, A LETTER, A BRIDGE**
- **UNDERLAY: WHITE**

BACKGROUND

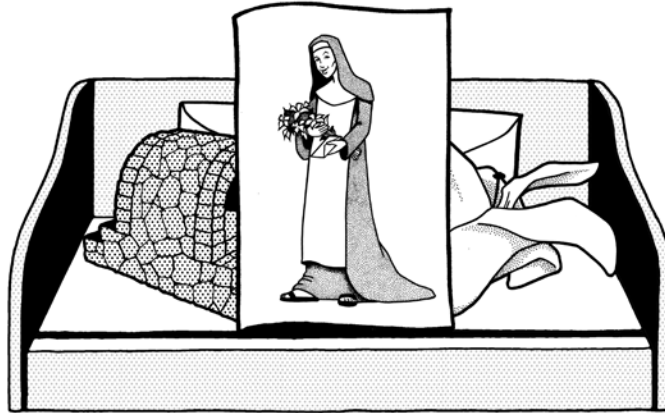
Catherine was born in 1347 and became a nun at the age of 16. She was known for her visions and the strict life she led, but also because she negotiated peace between Italian cities and helped persuade the Pope to return to Rome from France. She died in 1380 when she was only about 33 years old. She was declared one of the 33 Doctors of the Church in 1970, one of only three women.

NOTES ON THE MATERIAL

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

Behind the booklet in the tray are placed the objects used to help us remember Catherine's life: A lily, a letter and a stone bridge. The underlay is a 12" square piece of white cloth and is folded on top of the objects.



ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA 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.