St. Thérèse of Lisieux

BACKGROUND

Thérèse = ____________________________  Lisieux = ____________________________

From: ___________  Born/Died: ___________  Feast Day: _________________

Patron saint of: _______________________, _______________________, _______________________.

DVD NOTES

1 Even though St. Thérèse of Lisieux died practically unknown (at the age of _______), within a few years she was known worldwide, canonized a saint, and declared a ___________________________________________________.

2 St. Thérèse of Lisieux’s autobiography, ____________________________, has been said to be overly sentimental and emotional, but it remains one of the main reasons for the spread of her fame even today.

3 France is the home to both St. Teresa of __________ (oftentimes called “The __________ Teresa”) and St. Thérèse of Lisieux (called “_________________________” by most Catholics outside of France).

4 When Thérèse was only ____ years old her _______________ died. After this she became withdrawn and moody, even “sensitive to an excessive degree”. School even became very unpleasant for her, as she was often ____________________________________________.

5 On May 13, 1883, Thérèse lay helpless in bed until a moment that healed her of all her physical and psychological symptoms. It was the _____________ of St. Mary (on a statue) that Thérèse pointed to as an incredible “manifestation of grace”.

6 When Thérèse was only _____ years old she wanted to become a _________________ nun. This desire burned so strongly in her that she courageously met with _________________ and even begged the __________ to let her join at such a young age. She eventually had to be ________________________ by two papal guards.

7 Unlike the “spiritual athletes who climbed great mountains to God”, Thérèse gradually came to understand that her path was different, one she called, “____________________________”. 
8 Towards end of her life, Thérèse wanted to be a priest, __________, __________, evangelist, and __________. How can I be any of these while in Carmel? Then she read 1 Corinthians where Paul talks about the more excellent way – the way of __________. She realized that __________ was the answer. She said, “Jesus, my love, I have found my answer. I will be love in the heart of the Church.” That is the little way.

9 Towards the end of her life, Thérèse struggled with __________, even having doubts about the existence of __________. She used this struggle as a way to __________ in the pain of those who don’t __________ in God.

OTHER NOTES

A Thérèse performed numerous little sacrifices of love during her time in the convent. Here are three examples:

1. She __________ at sisters she didn’t like.
2. She ate everything she was given without __________ (she was often given the __________ leftovers).
3. Instead of arguing when she was accused of breaking a vase (which she was not guilty of), Thérèse sank to her knees and begged for __________.

B When Thérèse was gravely ill she said that her pain was so great that if she had not had faith she would have __________ her own life without hesitation. Yet, some of her sisters thought she was just faking her illness because Thérèse continued to __________ and be __________ during this time.

C When Thérèse died she was pretty much a “nobody” (she probably knew no more than ____ people). Everything at the convent quickly went back to normal. One nun even commented that there was __________ to say about Thérèse. But her sister, Pauline, put together Thérèse’s writings and sent 2,000 copies to other convents. Thérèse’s "______________ ________" of trusting in Jesus to make her holy and relying on small daily sacrifices instead of great deeds appealed to thousands of Catholics and others who were trying to find __________ in ordinary lives. Within ________ years, the Martin family had to __________ because her popularity became so great. Thérèse was canonized a saint in 1925.

D In 2015 Thérèse’s parents, Louis and Marie-Azélie, were __________ as __________. Five(!) of their daughters became __________.