

Finding a Home in our Faith

What makes the Church feel like home?

Vanessa - 10.9.2024

What makes our Faith feel like home?

As parents, we want our kids to feel like our faith is a home, not a museum.

- Room for all kinds of people
- Feels accepted, understood
- Fun, laughter, humor
- We acknowledge that others are imperfect just as we are
- Unconditional love
 - We know we will always be welcomed back
- We know the stories of our faith, just like we know stories of our families

St. Francis of Assisi

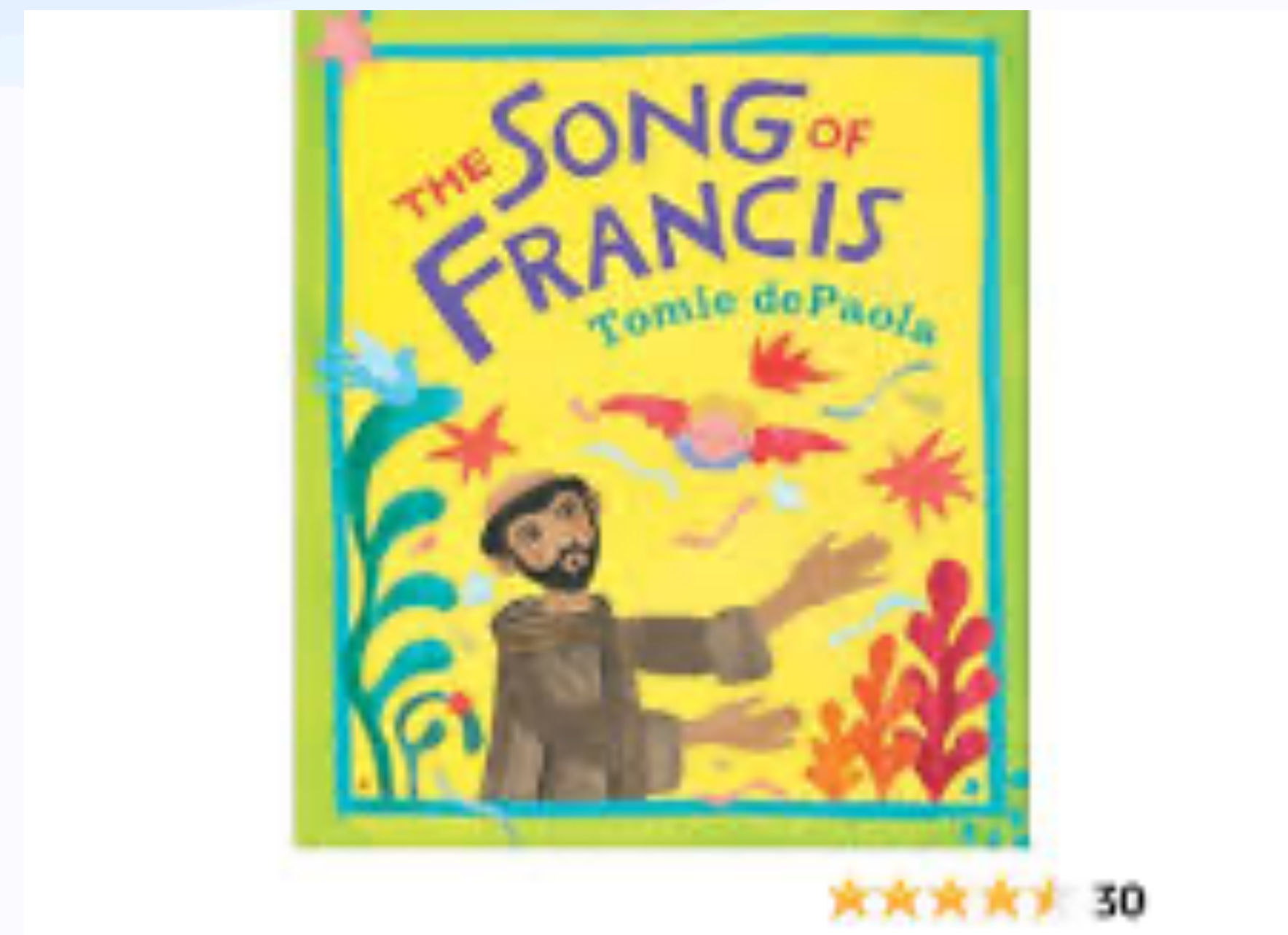
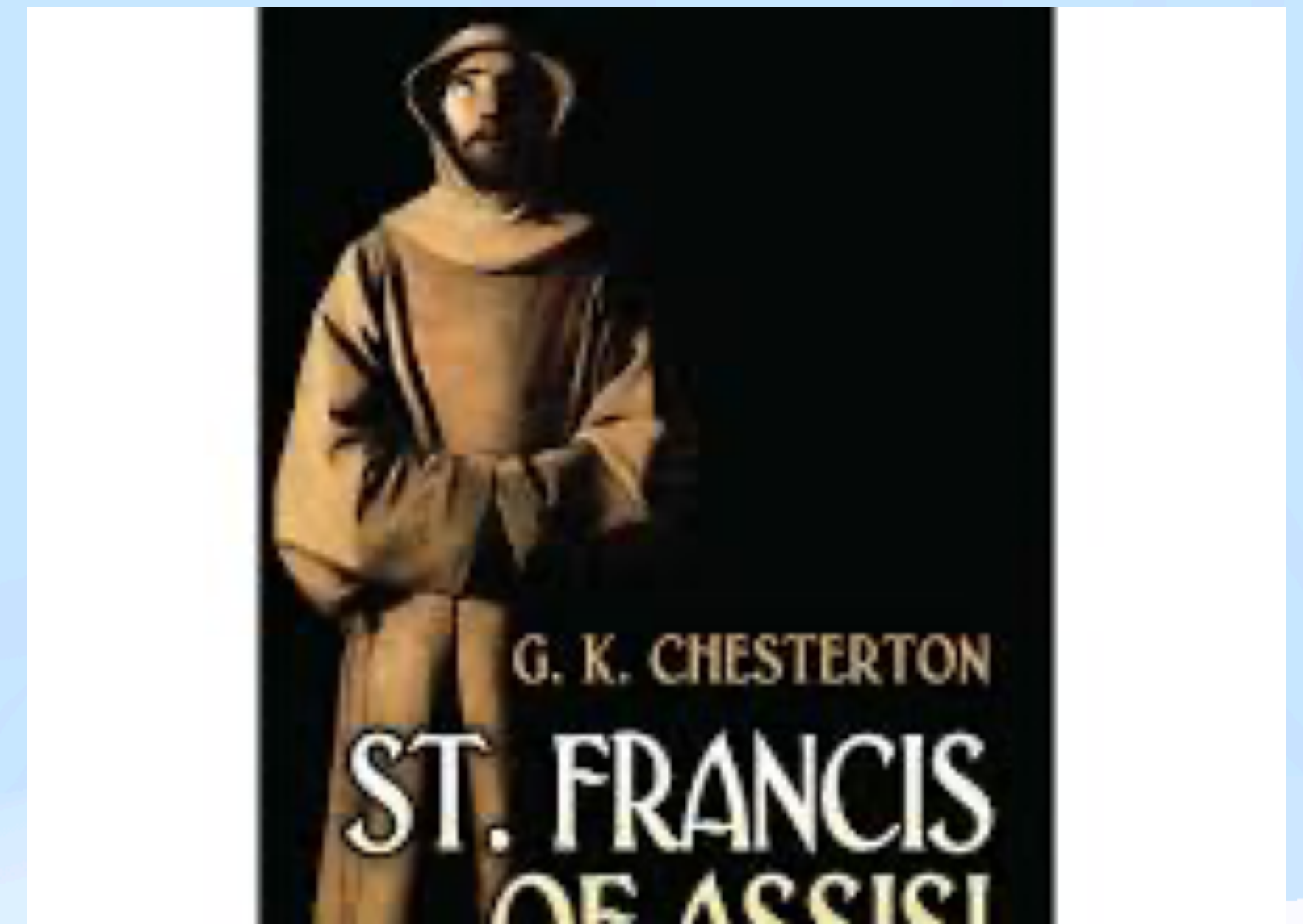
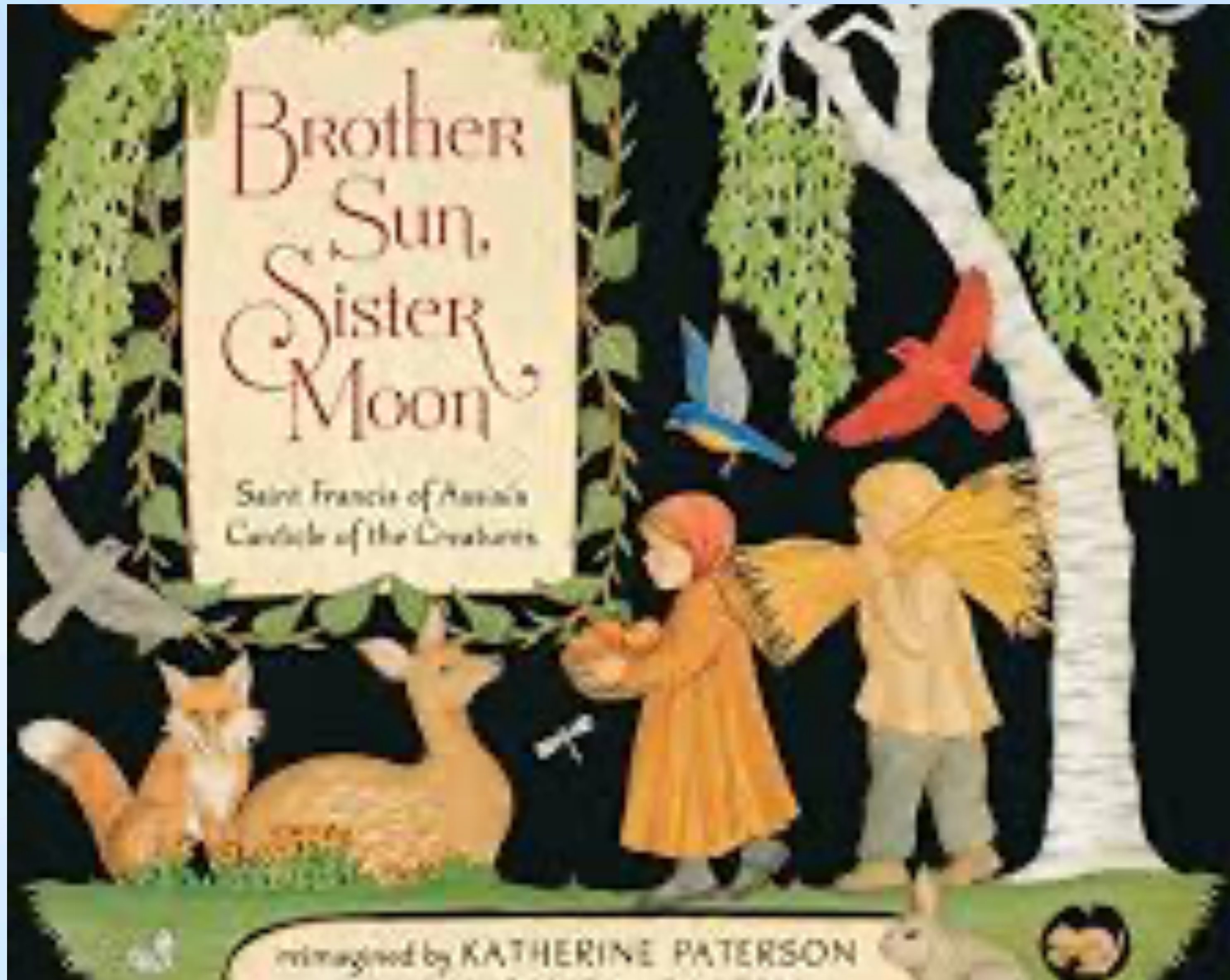
- Feast Day Oct 4
- Born into the merchant middle class in Italy
- Loved being well-dressed and dreamed of being a hero
- Returned from war sick and wounded
- Meets a leper
- Hears the voice of God: “repair my church”
- Sells everything
- Taken to court by father



St. Francis of Assisi

- considered ridiculous
- “When one does not have anything to depend upon, everything is a miracle.”
- extreme poverty, founded the Franciscans
- Crusades, The Sultan and the Saint
- Love of all creatures
- Stigmata





St. Thérèse of Lisieux

The Little Flower, Oct 1

- She was a sickly child from birth
- Mother died when she was 4
- Asked to enter the convent at 9
- At 13 overheard her father's concerns and grew a new strong conviction in her faith, "Christmas Conversion"
- Criminal, Henri Pranzini
- begged Pope Leo XII to enter the convent at 15
- Develops her "Little Way"
- Writes "Story of a Soul"
- Dies at 24



“Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love.”

“Without love, deeds, even the most brilliant, count as nothing.”

“The splendor of the rose and the whiteness of the lily do not rob the little violet of its scent nor the daisy of its simple charm. If every tiny flower wanted to be a rose, spring would lose its loveliness.”

"Love proves itself by deeds, so how am I to show my love? Great deeds are forbidden me. The only way I can prove my love is by scattering flowers and these flowers are every little sacrifice, every glance and word, and the doing of the least actions for love."

"Our Lord does not look so much at the greatness of our actions, or even at their difficulty, as at the love with which we do them."



What Makes A Doctor of the Church?

A doctor of the church is a person whose teaching on faith has been deemed sound and of benefit to the church through their writing, study, or research.

1. Significant Theological Contributions
2. High Degree of Sanctity
3. A Formal Proclamation by the Pope or and Ecumenical Council

Doctors of the Church

1. **Saint Ambrose** (c. 340-397), bishop of Milan, Italy, a major opponent of Arianism, wrote and preached extensively [named a Doctor of the church, 1298].
2. **Saint Augustine of Hippo** (c. 354-430), North African bishop, author of *Confessions*, *City of God*, and numerous treatises, countered heretical movements, one of the most influential theologians of the Western church, called “Doctor of Grace” [1298].
3. **Saint Jerome**(c. 343-420), translated Old Testament from Hebrew into Latin and revised Latin translation of New Testament to produce Vulgate version of Bible, called “Father of Biblical Science” [1298].
4. **Saint Gregory the Great** (c. 540-604), pope, strengthened papacy and worked for clerical and monastic reform [1298].
5. **Saint Athanasius** (c. 297-373), bishop of Alexandria, dominant opponent of Arians, called “Father of Orthodoxy” [1298].
6. **Saint John Chrysostom** (“Golden-Mouthed”) (c. 347-407), archbishop of Constantinople, homilist, writer of scripture commentaries and letters, patron of preachers [1568].
7. **Saint Basil the Great** (c. 329-379), bishop of Caesarea in Asia Minor, refuted Arian errors, wrote treatises, homilies, and monastic rules, called “Father of Monasticism of the East” [1568].
8. **Saint Gregory of Nazianzus** (c. 330-390), bishop of Constantinople, opponent of Arianism, wrote major theological treatises as well as letters and poetry, called the “Christian Demosthenes” and, in the East, “The Theologian” [1568].
9. **Saint Thomas Aquinas** (1225-1274), Italian Dominican, wrote systematically on philosophy, theology, and Catholic doctrine, patron of Catholic schools and education, one of the most influential theologians in the West [1568].
10. **Saint Bonaventure** (c. 1217-1274), Franciscan, bishop of Albano, Italy, cardinal [1588].
11. **Saint Anselm of Canterbury** (1033-1109), archbishop, called “Father of Scholasticism” [1720].
12. **Saint Isidore of Seville** (c. 560-636), Spanish bishop, encyclopedist, and preeminent scholar of his day [1722].
13. **Saint Peter Chrysologus** (c. 400-450), archbishop of Ravenna, Italy, homilist and writer, counteracted Monophysite heresy [1729].
14. **Saint Leo I, the Great** (c. 400-461), pope, wrote christological and other works against the heresies of his day [1754].
15. **Saint Peter Damian** (1007-1072), Italian Benedictine and cardinal, ecclesiastical and clerical reformer [1828].
16. **Saint Bernard of Clairvaux** (c. 1090-1153), French Cistercian abbot and monastic reformer, called “Mellifluous Doctor” [1830].
17. **Saint Hilary of Poitiers** (c. 315-368), one of first Latin doctrinal writers, opposed Arianism [1851].
18. **Saint Alphonsus Liguori** (1696-1787), founder of Redemptorists, preeminent moral theologian and apologist, patron of confessors and moralists[1871].
19. **Saint Francis de Sales** (1567-1622), bishop of Geneva, spiritual writer, patron of Catholic writers and press [1877].
20. **Saint Cyril of Alexandria** (c. 376-444), bishop, authored doctrinal treatises against Nestorian heresy [1882].
21. **Saint Cyril of Jerusalem** (c. 315-386), bishop, catechist, vigorous opponent of Arianism [1882].
22. **Saint John Damascene** (c. 675-749), Syrian monk, doctrinal writer, called “Golden Speaker” [1890].
23. **Saint Bede the Venerable** (c. 673-735), English Benedictine, called “Father of English History” [1899].
24. **Saint Ephrem the Syrian** (c. 306-373), counteracted Gnosticism and Arianism with his poems, hymns, and other writings [1920].
25. **Saint Peter Canisius** (1521-1597), Dutch Jesuit, catechist, important figure in Counter-Reformation in Germany [1925].
26. **Saint John of the Cross** (1542-1591), founder of Discalced Carmelites, called “Doctor of Mystical Theology” [1926].
27. **Saint Robert Bellarmine** (1542-1621), Italian Jesuit, archbishop of Capua, wrote Reformation-era doctrinal defenses, catechisms, and works on ecclesiology and church-state relations [1931].
28. **Saint Albert the Great** (c. 1200-1280), German Dominican, bishop of Regensburg, teacher of Saint Thomas Aquinas, patron of scientists, called “Universal Doctor” and “Expert Doctor” [1932].
29. **Saint Anthony of Padua** (1195-1231), first theologian of Franciscans, preacher, called “Evangelical Doctor” [1946].
30. **Saint Lawrence of Brindisi** (1559-1619), Italian Capuchin Franciscan, influential post-Reformation preacher [1959].
31. **Saint Teresa of Ávila** (1515-1582), Spanish Carmelite, initiated discalced Carmelite movement, prolific spiritual and mystical writer, first woman Doctor of the church [1970].
32. **Saint Catherine of Siena** (c. 1347-1380), Italian Third Order Dominican, mystical author, also active in support of Crusades and in papal politics [1970].
33. **Saint Thérèse of Lisieux** (1873-1897), French Carmelite, wrote spiritual autobiography describing her “little way” of spiritual perfection [1997].
34. **Saint John of Ávila** (1499 or 1500-1569), Spanish priest, preacher, and mystic, was influential in spreading the faith in Andalusia and reforming the church in Spain [2012].
35. **Saint Hildegard of Bingen** (1098-1179), German Benedictine abbess and mystic, recorded her visions in writing, also wrote lyric poems, letters of advice and prophecy, and treatises on medicine and physiology [2012].
36. **Saint Gregory of Narek** (950-c. 1005), Armenian monk and poet, also recognized as a saint in the Armenian Apostolic Church [2015].