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BOOKS BY MARY FABYAN WINDEATT

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SAINT ROSE OF LIMA

*The Story of the First Canonized
Saint of the New World*

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TAN Books
Charlotte, North Carolina

Nihil Obstat: Henry J. Zolzer Censor

Imprimatur: ✠ Thomas H. McLaughlin
Bishop of Paterson
October 15, 1943

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The greater part of this book originally appeared in the pages of *The Torch*. This book was formerly titled *Angel of the Andes: The Story of Saint Rose of Lima*.

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ISBN: 978-0-89555-424-6

Library of Congress Catalog Card No.: 93-83096

Printed and bound in the United States of America.

Printed at Versa Press, Inc., East Peoria, IL 61611. Sixth Edition. February 2011

TAN Books
Charlotte, North Carolina
www.TANBooks.com

2012

for
SISTER ROSE CELESTINE
of the Sisters of Charity
of Saint Vincent de Paul,
Halifax, Nova Scotia.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author wishes to thank Reverend Norbert Georges, O.P., Director of the Blessed Martin Guild, and Miss Dora Vigors of Lima, Peru, for much valuable information concerning the life and times of Saint Rose of Lima—Patroness and first canonized Saint of the New World.

CHAPTER 1

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

IT WAS a July day in the city of Lima, with the sun hiding behind the thick blanket of mist which generally covers the coasts of Peru and Chile from June until September. Maria de Oliva Flores shivered as she went out into the large garden behind her house. Such days as these, with no sunlight, did not please her. The air was heavy and damp. She felt like sleeping all the time.

"Marianna! Are you out here?"

From the other end of the garden, out of sight among the trees and flowers, came a girl's voice. "*Sí, señora*. I am with little Isabel."

Maria de Oliva turned into a narrow path, bending her head as she passed under a spreading fig tree. She might have known. Marianna, the Indian servant girl, always came out here after lunch with the baby of the Flores family. Three-month-old Isabel was definitely Marianna's favorite. Now Maria quickened her steps as she came to where Marianna was sitting beside the child's cradle. There was a proud smile on her face as she lifted the lace covering and looked down at her youngest child.

"Marianna, I've had many children, but I believe Isabel is the sweetest of all. Such pretty dark hair

and eyes! And those little pink cheeks. . . .”

The young Indian girl smiled, her white teeth flashing in the bronze of her face. “Isabel is like a flower, *señora*. And so good! I’ve never seen such a lovely baby.”

“Like a flower, Marianna? What flower?”

“A rose, *señora*. A beautiful pink rose. Just look at her now, smiling at us as though she knew what we were saying!”

Maria de Oliva was quiet a moment. This child had been born three months ago—on April 30, the feast of Saint Catherine of Siena. On May 25 she had been baptized by Father Anthony Polanco at the Church of San Sebastián and given the name Isabel. This had been to please her grandmother, Isabel de Herrera, Maria de Oliva’s own mother. But did that name really suit the child? Wouldn’t it be better to call her Rose, after the flower she resembled so much?

Marianna busied herself with her mending. The Flores family was not wealthy. With several children to feed and clothe, Gaspar Flores could afford only one servant. That meant Marianna had little free time. But she did not mind; now that little Isabel had come, it was especially good to be part of the Flores household.

“When this baby grows up, she will be the prettiest girl in Lima,” said Marianna. “She will bring us good luck.”

“We can use it,” sighed Maria. “Sometimes it’s a very hard struggle to make ends meet. Let’s hope that Rose marries a wealthy man.”

“Rose, *señora*?”

"That's right. I'm not going to call her Isabel any more. Rose suits her better. I know her grandmother won't mind if we change it."

Isabel de Herrera did mind, however. Her pride had been greatly flattered when Maria de Oliva had named her pretty little daughter after her, and she refused to hear of a change.

"She was called Isabel in Baptism, Maria. Why do you want to alter things now?"

"Because I think the name of Rose is better suited to her. Mother, please don't make things difficult for me!"

Isabel de Herrera had a hot temper. "*Difficult?* What are you talking about? The child's name is Isabel. That's all there is to it!"

"It's Rose!"

"It's Isabel!"

"Rose, I tell you!"

"Isabel!"

Sometimes Gaspar Flores lost patience with his wife and mother-in-law. "Call the child anything you like," he pleaded, "only let a man have some peace in his own house. *Please!*"

One year passed, two years, four years, and still the small Flores child was the center of a bitter struggle.

"It's certainly very foolish," said the neighbors.

"That poor little girl is afraid to answer to Rose because it displeases her grandmother. And she doesn't know what to do when anyone calls her Isabel because then her mother is angry. Why doesn't Gaspar put his foot down?"

But Gaspar Flores felt powerless. He felt that he could do little with his wife, much less with his mother-in-law.

“God help us all!” he often prayed.

One day Maria de Oliva, who was given to sudden fits of energy, decided to teach her little girl to read and write.

“Rose, you’re nearly five years old. I think you could learn the alphabet. Look—this is the letter A. This one is B. And here is C. It’s really very simple.”

Rose found a piece of paper and some colored chalk. This was going to be nice! Bernardina, her oldest sister, knew all about reading and writing. So did Jane and Andrew and Anthony and Matthew. Even seven-year-old Ferdinand could write his name quite well. Perhaps, thought Rose, she could catch up with her brothers and sisters if she worked hard.

After half an hour of copying letters, however, Rose’s small fingers grew stiff.

“I’m tired and so are you,” announced Maria de Oliva. “We’ll have another lesson tomorrow. Now I want you to promise me something.”

“Yes, Mother?”

“You’re not to answer to any other name but Rose. No—it doesn’t matter if your grandmother is cross. Your name is Rose Flores and nothing else. Understand?”

Rose nodded. The trouble about her name had always made her sad. She hated to see people quarreling, particularly her mother and grandmother. Ever since she could remember, however, there had been arguments between the two. Even though Maria

insisted that she had once had a vision in which she saw a beautiful pink rose floating over Rose's cradle, Isabel de Herrera would not believe it.

"That rose was a sign from Heaven telling me to change the child's name," said Maria de Oliva. "I'm absolutely convinced of it."

"A sign from Heaven, indeed!" the older woman cried out. "It was nothing but your own imagination!"

Maria soon grew tired of teaching her small daughter to read and write. She didn't have much patience, even at the best of times. And there was no one else to be interested in the child's great desire to learn.

"You're only a very little girl," Marianna comforted her one day. "There's plenty of time for you to learn reading and writing. As far as that goes, people can be quite happy without knowing how to do either of them. There's just one thing that's really important."

"What?" asked Rose eagerly.

"Knowing what is good and doing it. You'll never have any real trouble if you remember that, my child."

Marianna's words pleased Rose and she often turned them over in her mind. God was good. The more one thought about Him, the better one came to know Him. After that, being good and dying good were the simplest things in the world. Still, though, it would be nice to know a few things so that one might be useful to other people.

"I'm going to pray," the little girl told herself. "Since no one has time to teach me things, I'm going to ask God to do it. He can do anything, can't He?"

Maria de Oliva had a statue of the Christ Child in

her room. As was the Peruvian custom, the statue had a robe of its very own. This one was of red velvet with gold trimmings. Every day Rose knelt down before the little statue and said a prayer.

“Lord, help me to know and love You,” she said very softly. “And please teach me to read and write!”

Maria de Oliva didn’t know about these little prayers of Rose’s. She had a lot to do to run her big house, and sometimes the work made her tired and cross.

“It won’t always be like this,” she thought. “Some-day the children will marry, perhaps quite well. Then I’ll be able to take things easier.”

One morning Maria was baking bread. The kitchen was hot and steamy, and she was not in the mood to talk to anyone.

“Don’t bother me now,” she said, as Rose pushed open the door. “Go and play with Ferdinand until dinner time.”

“But Mother! Don’t you want to hear something wonderful? I know how to read and write!”

Maria de Oliva pounded the big mound of dough before her. “You mustn’t make up stories,” she said. “You’re not a baby anymore. You ought to know that to tell a lie is a sin.”

“I’m not telling a lie, Mother. I know how to read and write! Really and truly! Look!”

Maria glanced at the paper which Rose held out to her. It was covered with words, neatly written in a large round hand. For a five-year-old child, the writing was very good.

“Someone’s been helping you!” she said, a little



"Mother, I know how to read and write!"

sharply. "Your father or your grandmother."

Rose shook her head. "Nobody helped me, Mother. Only the little Christ Child. You're always so busy I didn't want to bother you, so I just asked Him to help me. And He did!"

Some of the flush faded from Maria's heated face. "Go and bring me a book," she ordered sternly. "Any book. We'll soon see if you're telling the truth."

In a few minutes Rose was back with a big green volume. "Look, Mother, there are four words in gold letters on the cover. I can read every one of them."

Maria de Oliva stared. If this child of hers was really telling the truth. . . .

"Well? What are those four words?"

Rose smiled. This was a wonderful day. She would remember it as long as she lived. The four golden words on the cover of the green book were Saint Catherine Of Siena. Inside there were many more words, telling the life story of the great Italian saint upon whose feast day she had been born. And she could read every one of them!

Saint Rose *of* Lima

Student Workbook

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Cataloging-in-Publication data on file with the Library of Congress.

Illustrations by Gedge Harmon

ISBN: 978-1-5051-0715-9

Printed and bound in the United States of America

Saint Rose *of* Lima

Student Workbook

a comprehensive companion to the book by
Mary Fabyan Windeatt



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Key Terms

These are important people, places, and things you should remember from this chapter.

Lima The capital of Peru.

Maria de Oliva Flores Rose's mother.

Marianna An Indian servant girl of the Flores family.

Isabel Flores The name given to Rose in baptism.

Gaspar Flores Rose's father.

Vocabulary

*Read the sentences below, and note the use of the word in **bold**. Write a definition or synonym for this word by considering its context.*

1. Marianna busied herself with her **mending**.
2. Her pride had been greatly **flattered** when Maria de Oliva had named her pretty little daughter after her, and she refused to hear of a change.
3. One year passed, two years, four years, and still the small Flores child was the center of a **bitter** struggle.
4. "Go and bring me a book," she ordered **sternly**.

Comprehension Questions

To better understand this chapter, ask yourself these questions and write down your answers using complete sentences.

1. What name was Rose given in baptism? Where did this name come from?

.....

.....

.....

2. Why did Maria de Oliva change her daughter's name to Rose?

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3. What did Maria de Oliva decide to teach four-year-old Rose? Was she successful?

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4. What did Rose decide to do when her mother gave up teaching her how to read and write?

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.....

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5. How did Rose prove to her mother that she had learned to read and write from the Christ Child?

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Saint Rose *of* Lima

Teacher's Manual

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Cataloging-in-Publication data on file with the Library of Congress.

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Saint Rose *of* Lima

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a comprehensive companion to the book by
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TAN BOOKS

Dear Parents,

Mary Fabyan Windeatt was known as “the storyteller of the saints.” In the 1950s and 60s, she wrote more than twenty historical fiction novels on the saints, bringing to life these holy men and women for young readers across the world. Her unparalleled work strengthened the Catholic Church during and after her own life and will continue to do so in succeeding generations.

TAN Books now offers these companion workbooks meant to test your students’ reading comprehension, instruct them on matters of the Catholic Faith, and bring them closer to each of these great saints. Through engaging and fun activities like crossword puzzles and word searches, as well as through essays and challenging multiple choice questions, they will come to better know the content and sanctity found in each story.

Following this letter, you will find information to help guide you through the steps of introducing this workbook to your students. It is our hope and prayer that these books and workbooks will nourish both the minds and the souls of your children.

In Christ,

TAN Books



Contents and Suggested Schedule

Chapter Reviews: The workbook is comprised of a quick review following each chapter intended to help the student comprehend the text (shorter chapters will be bunched together). Within this review are key terms to know, vocabulary and comprehension questions, and an *optional* activity. It is recommended that the student pause after each chapter (or group of chapters) and complete the review. While the chapter reviews are not meant to be graded, **most of the quiz questions will come directly from these reviews.**

**Not all chapters will contain an activity. Most activities will not be covered in the Teacher’s Manual because they often do not require a concrete answer (i.e., writing a prayer, saying the Rosary, etc.).*

Quizzes: There will be three quizzes that break up the lesson reviews following each third of the book. The student should pause to take the assigned quiz for the specified chapters.

**Point scale is provided on each individual quiz (100 point total). Points assigned to vocabulary, multiple choice, matching, and narration exercises will vary based on how many there are in each quiz.*

***Students will be allowed to look back through their chapter reviews for the Vocabulary section of the quiz to assist them in completing the crossword puzzle. This is the only section of the quiz they will be allowed to do this for.*

Essay: At the completion of the novel and all the quizzes, each student should write a final essay detailing the virtues the saint displayed and how they might emulate those virtues in their own lives.

**Essay is in the student workbook and should be graded at the parent’s discretion.*

Vocabulary

Your student should have defined the word in **bold** in a similar way to the italicized definition.

1. Marianna busied herself with her **mending**.

The act of a repairing something

2. Her pride had been greatly **flattered** when Maria de Oliva had named her pretty little daughter after her, and she refused to hear of a change.

To please by compliments

3. One year passed, two years, four years, and still the small Flores child was the center of a **bitter** struggle.

Intensely unpleasant; spiteful

4. "Go and bring me a book," she ordered **sternly**.

Firm or uncompromising

Comprehension Questions

Note the suggested response and ensure your student's answer either matches exactly or closely resembles it.

1. What name was Rose given in baptism? Where did this name come from?

She was given the name Isabel. This was the name of her maternal grandmother.

2. Why did Maria de Oliva change her daughter's name to Rose?

She and Marianna believed the baby was as beautiful as a rose.

3. What did Maria de Oliva decide to teach four-year-old Rose? Was she successful?

She taught her how to read and write. She grew impatient and decided not to continue teaching her when she was so young.

4. What did Rose decide to do when her mother gave up teaching her how to read and write?

Rose decided to pray to Jesus and ask Him to teach her how to read and write. She knelt down in front of her statue of the Christ Child every day to pray for this favor.

5. How did Rose prove to her mother that she had learned to read and write from the Christ Child?

Rose brought her mother a book when she asked her to do so. She then read the cover to her and told her about what she had read inside the book of St. Catherine of Sienna.