Thérèse of Lisieux: "Doctor for the Third Millennium?"
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Short bio of St Therese of Lisieux. From an early age, it was Therese’s ambition and desire to be a saint. Instead, she felt a burning desire to pray for the souls of others and forget herself. She says that on this day, she lost her childhood immaturity and felt a very strong calling to enter the convent at the unprecedented early age of fifteen. St Therese was drawn to pray for sinners. Although her father tried to keep newspapers out of the house, she became aware of the notorious – unrepentant killer Henri Pranzini, who was due to be executed in 1887. Therese prayed for his last-minute conversion and was able to read in the newspaper of his last-minute grab for a crucifix as he approached the scaffold. St Thérèse of Lisieux (1873–1897) shows us how to love and honor God as Father in perfectly childlike, though not childish ways. Thérèse boldly sought Pope Leo XIII’s permission, face-to-face, to enter the Carmelite Order at the young age of fifteen. The pope deferred to the judgment of her local superiors, and Thérèse soon received the consent of her bishop and the prioress. She
entered the cloistered Carmelite monastery in Lisieux, France, on April 9, 1888, which because of the timing of Lent, would be Annunciation Day that year. There, for the next nine years, behind the cloister walls, th