

# Lighted Lanterns

*Companion*

Level A Reader

"**G**ood example is the most efficacious apostolate.  
You must be as *lighted lanterns* and shine like brilliant chandeliers  
among men. By your good example and your words, animate others to  
know and love God."

~ **St. Mary Joseph Rossello**



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## FOREWORD

It became apparent that it would be convenient to have a resource with all the stories that were used in Lighted Lanterns Level A for those who would like the whole story.

Some of our sources were from books too large to reprint in an anthology of this kind. In those cases, we replaced the longer stories with shorter ones on the same topic.

### HOW TO USE:

This reader is divided into 8 units to coincide with the 8 units in Lighted Lanterns Level A.

It is meant to be used as a supplemental resource. Use it according to your students' abilities. Have them read it or you read it to them as you work your way through each unit.

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*Note: All Bible references are from the Douay Rheims version.*



**Unit One**  
**Our Lord**

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## BLESSED IMELDA

A long time ago, there lived a lovely little girl named Imelda. When she was still a child she was taken to a convent to live with the Sisters.





In those days even very little children were taken to the convent.

Imelda wore a habit like the Sisters wore. How cute she must have looked!

She was sweet, too, which suited her because her name means “go, give honey!”

Now, there was one thing above all other things that Imelda wished for, and that was Holy Communion.



But though she was already ten years old, they would not let her; for it was the custom at that time not to let young people go to Holy Communion as they do now.

Oh, how little Imelda longed for the Bread of Life!

One day, when the Sisters had gone back to their places after Mass, something amazing happened.

A miracle!

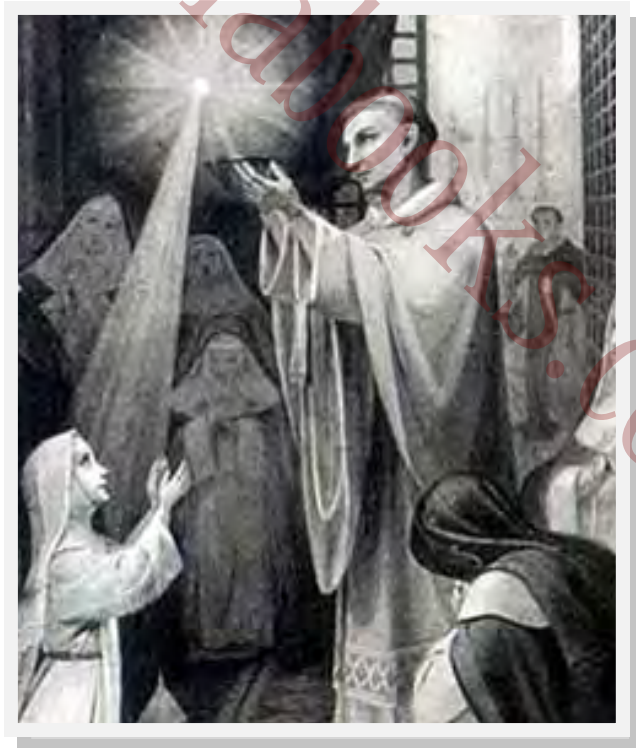
A little Host was seen floating in the air just above Imelda.

And there it stayed: Jesus wanted to give Himself to the girl who loved Him.



Quickly a priest was called. He came with the golden paten. The Host came down gently upon it. And he gave Holy Communion to the girl.

O, the love that burned in her heart then! Her one great wish was granted her.



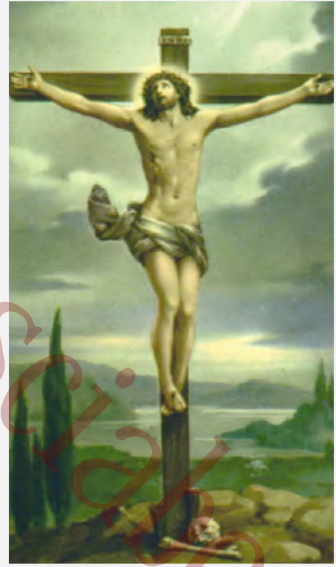
For a long time she knelt so still  
in her joy with a love-light from  
heaven on her fair young face – for so  
long a time, in fact, that some of the  
Sisters came up to speak with her.

They found that her First  
Communion had also been her last;  
Jesus had taken her up to heaven to  
enjoy Him forever. Imelda had fallen  
into the sleep of death.



\*Blessed Imelda is known as the  
Patron Saint of First  
Communicants.\*

## POEM TO OUR SAVIOR



O Sacred Cross! O Holy Tree!  
On which my Blessed Savior died,  
Teach my poor heart the mystery  
Of my Redeemer crucified.  
Cross of my Savior! Sacred Sign!  
Lead me from sin to grace divine.

## SAVING THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

During a war in France, a regiment that stopped for the night at a little village decided to sleep in the church, as it was the only place that would hold so many.

The priest had gone on a sick call, and, as he could not be home till night, the people of the village were troubled to know how to remove the Blessed Sacrament from the church.

While they were talking about what they should do, the village shoemaker said,

“If you wish, I will carry my little Mary to the altar, and she can take our Blessed Lord in her hands. Then, while she holds Him to her heart, I will carry her to the sacristy. She, only, will touch the luna\*, and she is a little angel.”

As all agreed to this, the good man carried his child to the church. There she took the luna in her hands, and as she was carried to the sacristy, the villagers followed.



When they saw that our Lord was safe, they prayed from their hearts that God would send His blessings on the little child who, in her innocence, did not fear to approach so near to Jesus.



\**Luna*: a circular holder with glass sides, metal circled with gold or gilded metal to hold the Sacred Host upright. It is a sacred vessel, having received the priest's blessing.

ST. ANTHONY  
PATRON SAINT OF LOST ITEMS



Pictures of St. Anthony usually  
show the Child Jesus in his arms.

Do you know why?

Because Our Lord once appeared to  
St. Anthony as the Child Jesus!

St. Anthony is the patron saint of  
lost items.

Next time you lose something,  
remember to say a prayer to  
St. Anthony asking him to  
help you find it.

We celebrate St. Anthony's feast day on  
June 13th.

