



# Little Flowers Foundation

## Greenhouse Report

Giving little flowers a place to grow in the Sun

Feast of St. Thérèse, October 1, 2006

### Four Great Years

It has now been four years since Little Flowers Foundation set out to help Catholic families adopt waiting children from around the world... children who, without the love of their new families, may never have heard about God's love for them.

We are amazed at your kindness and generosity that has enabled us to disburse over **\$70,000** in financial assistance to Catholic adoptive families since 2002! Through your dedication, **21 children** have come home to loving arms, and seven more, God willing, will be home soon.

We thought you'd like to hear about some of these kids!

### Three Families Welcome Daughters from China



One Ohio and two Maryland families recently welcomed into their homes daughters from China with help from LFF. All three girls were classified as **special needs children** due to conditions such as Hepatitis B or cleft palate. Now, all three also have in common the blessing of a loving, faithful family! **Grace**, nicknamed **Ling Ling** by her brothers and sister

### Grant Approved for Liberian Infant

Our most recent grant recipient is a Maryland family of 11 adopting a Liberian baby. This war-torn country has a pressing need for adoptive families for its many orphaned children, some of whom have suffered atrocities during the nation's 14-year civil war. In the words of this family's mother, "Even though our family is already large, we clearly sensed that God wanted us to enlarge it a little more."

### What Might Have Happened

Do you ever wonder what would have happened to some of the beautiful adopted children you've come to know if it were not for the courage, love, and generosity of their parents?

Take the Texas family that adopted a brother and sister from Russia last

year. Ruslan and Inessa had come to the US to stay with a host family that was considering adopting them, but when that family backed out, the children found themselves in a



nearly hopeless situation. The Texas family heard of their plight, and with great faith decided to adopt them. After a year of paperwork and other travail, as well as a \$4,000 grant from LFF, they were able to bring their new children home.

What *might* have happened to Ruslan and Inessa? Certainly, we can't know. But we can know one thing – we would not have been blessed with the lovely picture you see here—the moment before Inessa becomes a child of God through Baptism!

### Record Breakers

A Maryland family holds the record for the largest sibling group ever adopted with assistance from LFF! They adopted seven brothers and sisters with \$8,500 in aid from LFF.



A Maryland couple with their seven children adopted from the Philippines

### Special Boys from Ukraine

Lastly we'd like to share with you the story of **two special little boys from Ukraine**. Though unrelated, they live in the same orphanage, and it would seem God has destined them to be brothers. A Georgia couple's hearts were moved when their pictures appeared in an adoption agency's newsletter. Although the couple had seen many such pictures, they felt God asking them to pursue adoption of these two boys. Both require wheelchairs. **One of them is in desperate need of surgery that will not be done until he reaches the US**. The other boy lives with Cerebral Palsy.

As his soon-to-be adoptive mother read his story, she says she "thought about all of the medical resources that we have in our community, my personal experience of caring for children with these specific needs and therapies that could give this little one a fighting chance. A chance to express himself and show his true value as a child of a King. But most of all, I thought of all of this space in my heart, a space that I have affectionately named the 'God room.' No matter what I do I cannot make it feel complete, but whenever I allow God to come in and be the interior designer, the room has always felt more beautiful instead of smaller, and it grows larger as it is filled with a greater capacity for His love."

**This family is requesting a grant from LFF for \$7,500;** the adoptions will cost more than twice that amount. We hope to raise the funds needed to **bridge the gap** between what the family is able to pay and what the adoptions will actually cost. If you can help give the gift of a loving, Catholic family to these two needy boys, please use the enclosed card.