



Join Us As We Celebrate 800 Years of St. Francis of Assisi



Franciscan Institute
for Personal & Family Development
**A Ministry of the Sisters
of the Sorrowful Mother**



LIVING WATER COMMUNITY



**LAUDATO SI'
MOVEMENT**
formerly Global Catholic Climate Movement
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



**Catholic Education
Board of Management**



OFFICE OF YOUTH MINISTRY

COMPANION: ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



*800th Anniversary
Canticle of Creation*

JUST LIKE ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, WE ARE
EACH CALLED TO LOVE AND CARE FOR EACH
OTHER AND THE ENVIRONMENT, AS
EVERYTHING IS INTERCONNECTED.

POPE FRANCIS REMINDS US OF THIS IN HIS
ENCYCLICAL, LAUDATO SI.

USE THIS BOOK TO AID IN YOUR CONNECTION
TO GOD, NATURE AND YOUR PURPOSE.

REFLECT,
RENEW,
COLOUR EVERYWHERE!

HISTORY

THE LIFE OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Saint Francis of Assisi, born in 1181 in Italy, was a man who profoundly embraced a life of humility and service. He was born to a wealthy family, but eventually renounced wealth and privilege, instead, he sought a deep connection with God through nature and all of creation. His experience of divine love inspired him to preach the Gospel not just through words but through actions, emphasizing the interconnectedness of all living beings.

In 1209, Francis founded the Order of Friars Minor, emphasising a life of poverty, humility, and service. He and his followers traveled to preach the Gospel, living simply and in harmony with nature. His deep compassion for all living beings earned him recognition as the patron saint of animals, symbolising his belief in the interconnectedness of creation.

In his famous *Canticle of the Creatures*, Francis poetically praises elements of creation—sun, moon, wind, and water—recognizing them as siblings and reflections of God's glory. St. Francis composed *Canticle of the Creatures* (also known as *Canticle of the Sun*), when lying sick in 1224. He was being cared for by the Poor Clares at San Damiano in Assisi.

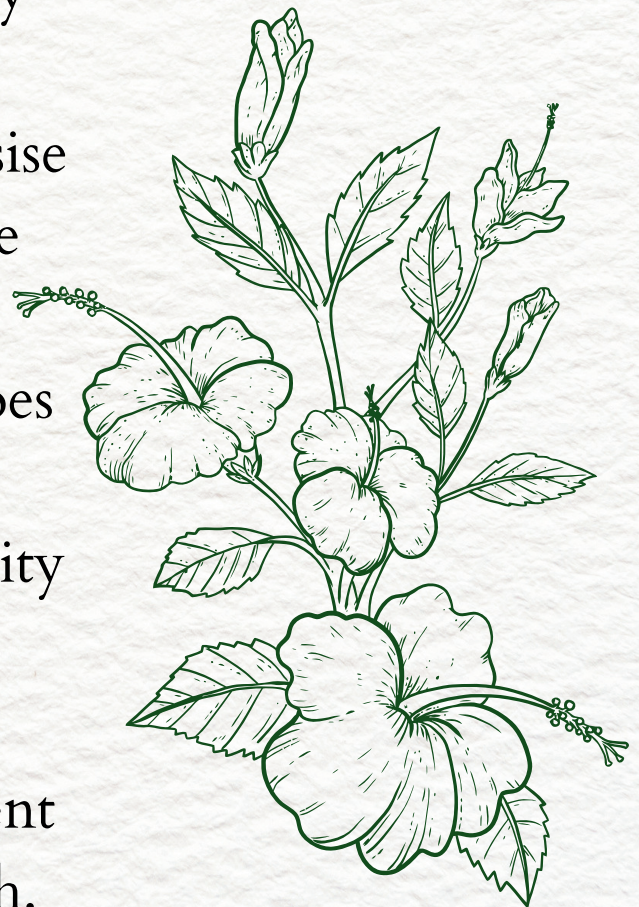
In the *Canticle* Francis invites all his brother and sister creatures to praise God our Creator. These creatures include “Brother Sun” and “Sister Moon,” “Brother Fire” and “Sister Water,” as well as “Sister Earth our Mother,” who sustains us. It is said that the final verse praising Sister Death was added by Francis in 1226, shortly before he died.

Francis’ teachings and lifestyle inspired countless individuals and movements, emphasising love, peace, and stewardship of the environment.



Saint Francis' life and teachings encourage humanity to respect and protect the environment, reminding us that caring for creation is a way of honouring the Creator. Through his example, he invites us to recognise the sacredness in the world around us, urging us to live in harmony with all creatures, fostering peace and stewardship in our shared home. His legacy continues to inspire ecological awareness and spiritual reverence today.

Saint Francis of Assisi profoundly influenced Pope Francis, who adopted his namesake to emphasise care for the environment and the marginalised. In his encyclical "Laudato Si'," Pope Francis echoes Francis' reverence for creation, calling for ecological responsibility and social justice. He urges humanity to recognise our interconnectedness and the urgent need for stewardship of the Earth.



IMPORTANT DATES



OCT
4TH

ST FRANCIS
OF ASSISI'S
FEAST DAY

SAINT FRANCIS IS
BORN TO A
WEALTHY
MERCHANT
FAMILY IN ITALY

1181

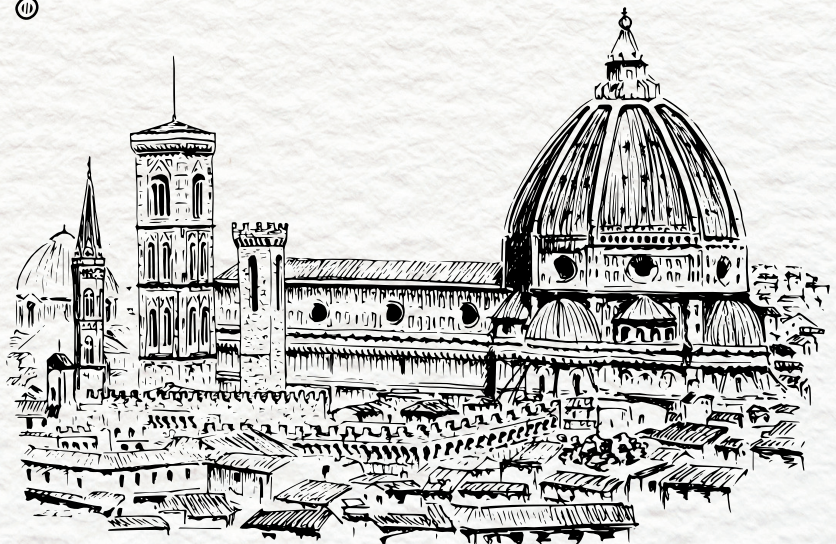
FRANCIS
FOUNDED THE
ORDER OF
FRIARS MINOR

1209



1224

SAINT FRANCIS WRITES
"CANTICLE OF CREATION"
ALSO KNOWN AS
"CANTICLE OF THE SUN"



HOW CAN WE CARE
FOR GOD'S
CREATION (PLANTS,
ANIMALS, PEOPLE,
THE POOR AND THE
EARTH) LIKE ST.
FRANCIS DID?



STEWARDS OF CREATION

“CREATION IS GOD’S SACRED GIFT,
ENTRUSTED TO OUR CARE. CHRISTIANS ARE
CALLED TO PROTECT AND NURTURE
CREATION IN PEACE, WORKING IN
PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHERS AND PASSING
THIS RESPONSIBILITY ON TO FUTURE
GENERATIONS.

ITS DEEP INTERCONNECTEDNESS MAKES
PEACE BOTH ESSENTIAL AND FRAGILE.”

REFLECT ON HOW YOU CAN BE A STEWARD OF
CREATION IN YOUR LIFE...



THE CANTICLE





O Most High, all-powerful, good Lord God,
to you belong praise, glory,
honour and all blessing.

Be praised, my Lord, for all your creation
and especially for our Brother Sun,
who brings us the day and the light;
he is strong and shines magnificently.

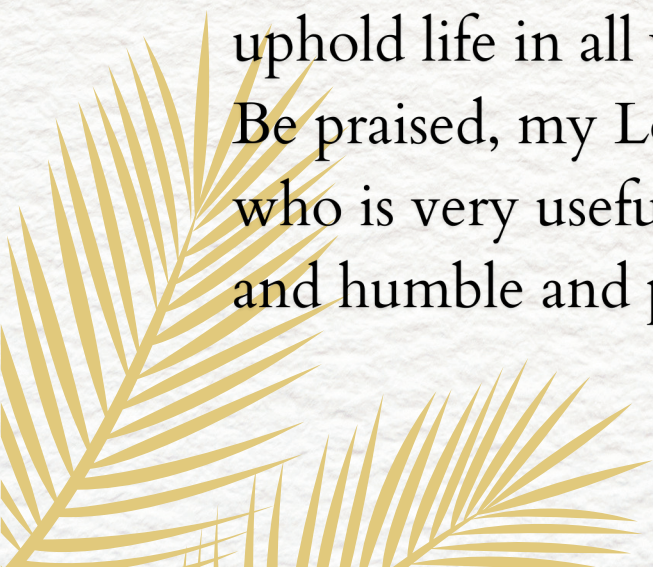
O Lord, we think of you when we look at him.

Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Moon,
and for the stars

which you have set shining and lovely
in the heavens.

Be praised, my Lord,
for our Brothers Wind and Air
and every kind of weather
by which you, Lord,
uphold life in all your creatures.

Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Water,
who is very useful to us,
and humble and precious and pure.



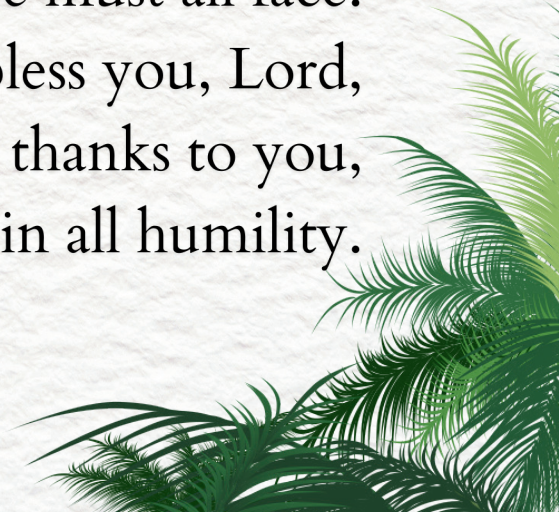
Be praised, my Lord, for Brother Fire,
through whom you give us light in the darkness:
he is bright and lively and strong.

Be praised, my Lord,
for Sister Earth, our Mother,
who nourishes us and sustains us,
bringing forth
fruits and vegetables of many kinds
and flowers of many colours.

Be praised, my Lord,
for those who forgive for love of you;
and for those
who bear sickness and weakness
in peace and patience
– you will grant them a crown.

Be praised, my Lord, for our Sister Death,
whom we must all face.

I praise and bless you, Lord,
and I give thanks to you,
and I will serve you in all humility.



WHY DO YOU THINK
ST. FRANCIS CALLED
THE SUN “BROTHER
SUN” AND THE MOON
“SISTER MOON”?



LISTEN & COLOUR
“THE CANTICLE OF CREATURES”



GRATITUDE

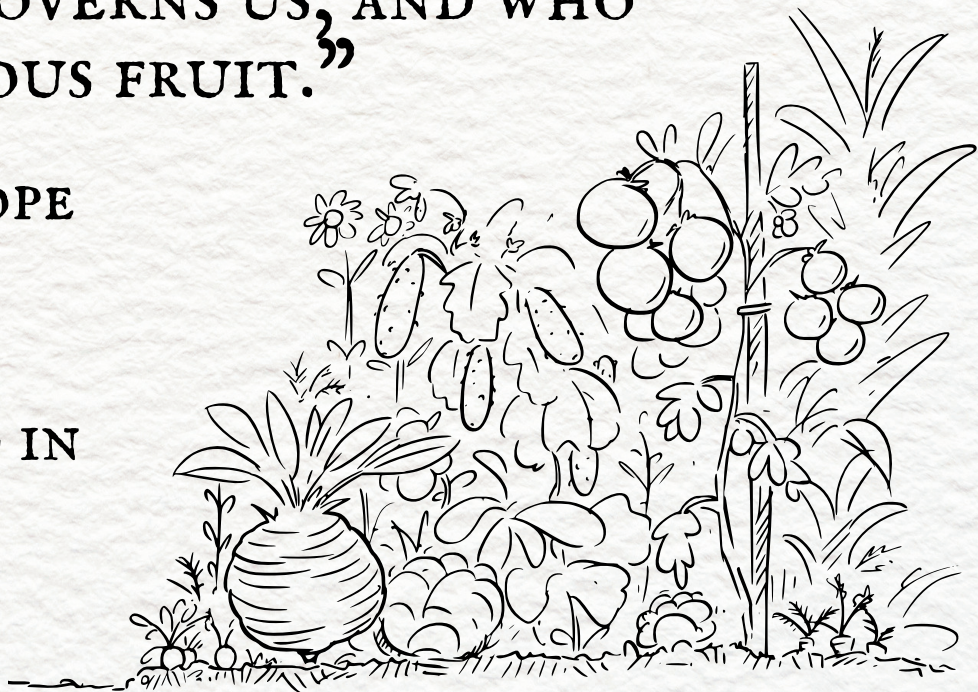
HARMONY WITH NATURE COMES WITH A
THANKFUL HEART. TAKE A MOMENT TO
LIST YOUR BLESSINGS...



CAN YOU THINK OF
ANY ACTIONS WE CAN
TAKE TO PROTECT THE
EARTH, ITS CREATURES
AND THE POOR?

“PRAISE BE TO YOU, MY LORD, THROUGH
OUR SISTER, MOTHER EARTH, WHO
SUSTAINS AND GOVERNS US, AND WHO
PRODUCES VARIOUS FRUIT.”

LAUDATO SI IS POPE
FRANCIS’ SECOND
ENCYCLICAL.
IT WAS PUBLISHED IN
MAY 2015.





PROVIDE A BRIEF OVERVIEW
OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI'S
LIFE AND HIS LOVE FOR
CREATION.

HOW CAN WE BRING SAINT FRANCIS' LOVE FOR
CREATION TO OUR COUNTRY?





REFLECTIONS: WAR ON CREATION

“FOR THE PALACE WILL BE FORSAKEN, THE
POPULOUS CITY DESERTED; THE HILL AND THE
WATCHTOWER WILL BECOME DENS FOREVER, THE JOY
OF WILD ASSES, A PASTURE FOR FLOCKS. UNTIL A
SPIRIT FROM ON HIGH IS POURED OUT ON US, AND
THE WILDERNESS BECOMES A FRUITFUL FIELD, AND
THE FRUITFUL FIELD IS DEEMED A FOREST. THEN
JUSTICE WILL DWELL IN THE WILDERNESS AND
RIGHTEOUSNESS ABIDE IN THE FRUITFUL FIELD. THE
EFFECT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS WILL BE PEACE, AND THE
RESULT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, QUIETNESS, AND TRUST
FOREVER. MY PEOPLE WILL ABIDE IN A PEACEFUL
HABITATION, IN SECURE DWELLINGS, AND IN QUIET
RESTING PLACES.”

ISAIAH 32:14-18

THE PROPHET ISAIAH PORTRAYS A DESOLATE CREATION,
DEVOID OF PEACE DUE TO INJUSTICE AND THE BROKEN
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOD AND HUMANKIND

“PEACE IS MORE THAN JUST THE ABSENCE OF
WAR. IN THE HEBREW BIBLE, SHALOM
REPRESENTS A FAR DEEPER CONCEPT—ONE THAT
EXTENDS BEYOND THE ABSENCE OF CONFLICT TO
THE FULL RESTORATION OF BROKEN
RELATIONSHIPS, AS ILLUSTRATED IN ISAIAH’S
VISION. THIS RESTORATION ENCOMPASSES OUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, OURSELVES, THE
HUMAN FAMILY, AND THE REST OF CREATION.”

CONSIDER HOW YOU CAN LIVE AT PEACE WITH
CREATION AS AN INDIVIDUAL AND AS PART OF
YOUR COMMUNITY.

OUR HOPE: CREATION WILL FIND PEACE WHEN JUSTICE IS RESTORED

“THEN JUSTICE WILL DWELL IN THE WILDERNESS
AND RIGHTEOUSNESS ABIDE IN THE FRUITFUL FIELD”

ISAIAH 32:16

“THERE IS HOPE FOR A PEACEFUL EARTH.
BIBLICALLY, HOPE IS ACTIVE—IT INVOLVES PRAYER, ACTION,
AND RECONCILING WITH CREATION AND THE CREATOR
THROUGH REPENTANCE AND SOLIDARITY.”

“THE EFFECT OF
RIGHTEOUSNESS WILL BE
PEACE; AND THE RESULT OF
RIGHTEOUSNESS, QUIETNESS,
AND TRUST FOREVER. MY
PEOPLE WILL ABIDE IN A
PEACEFUL HABITATION, IN
SECURE DWELLINGS, AND IN
QUIET RESTING PLACES”

ISAIAH 32:17-18



WE CAN MAKE HOPE ACTIVE AND ALIVE IN OUR WORLD!
USING THE THREE HEADINGS: PRAYER; ACTION; AND
RECONCILIATION, DESCRIBE HOW YOU CAN BRING HOPE
TO YOUR WORLD AND COMMUNITY?

KAIROS

THE APPOINTED TIME

“THE YEAR 2025 MARKS THE 1700TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NICENE CREED.

SINCE 325, CHRISTIANS EVERYWHERE HAVE FOLLOWED THE NICENE CALL TO CONFESS THEIR COMMUNION IN FAITH AND TO WITNESS THEIR FAITH IN THE CONTEXT OF A TROUBLED, UNEQUAL, AND DIVIDED WORLD. THE NICENE CREED HAS BECOME A BOND OF PEACE AND COMMUNION AMONG CHURCHES. OUR WORK FOR PEACE WITH CREATION CAN DRAW ON THIS OLD AND STRONG ECUMENICAL COMMUNION. IT IS AN EXPRESSION OF THE NICENE CREED TODAY.”

“THE EFFECT OF
RIGHTEOUSNESS WILL BE
PEACE, AND THE RESULT OF
RIGHTEOUSNESS, QUIETNESS
AND TRUST FOREVER.”

ISAIAH 32:17



A CALL TO ACTION: THE EFFECT OF JUSTICE WILL BE PEACE

“THE SPIRIT GUIDES US TO ECOLOGICAL
CONVERSION AND A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR
COSMIC FAMILY. WE MUST CHANGE OUR MINDSETS,
EMBRACE RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND TEACH THESE VALUES
TO FUTURE GENERATIONS.”



BLESSED ARE THE
PEACEMAKERS,
FOR THEY WILL BE
CALLED CHILDREN OF
GOD.

MATTHEW 5:9

** TEXT SOURCE: SEASON OF CREATION 2025

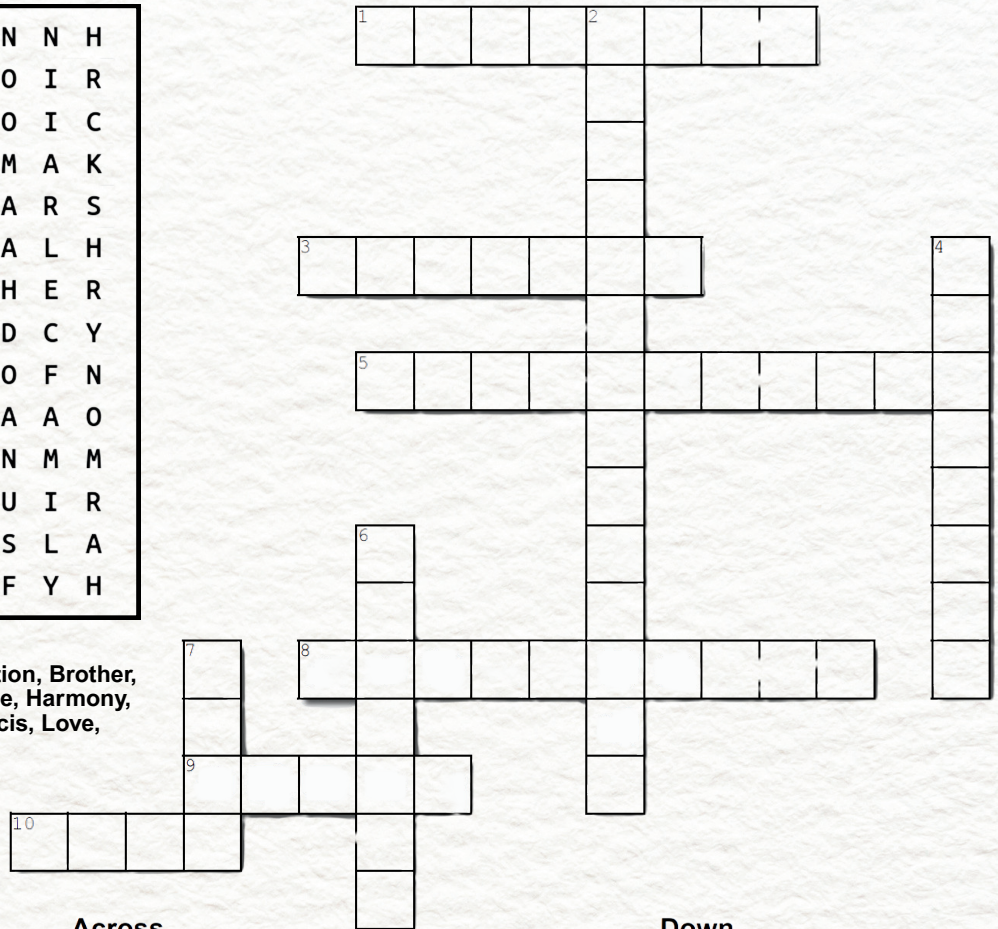
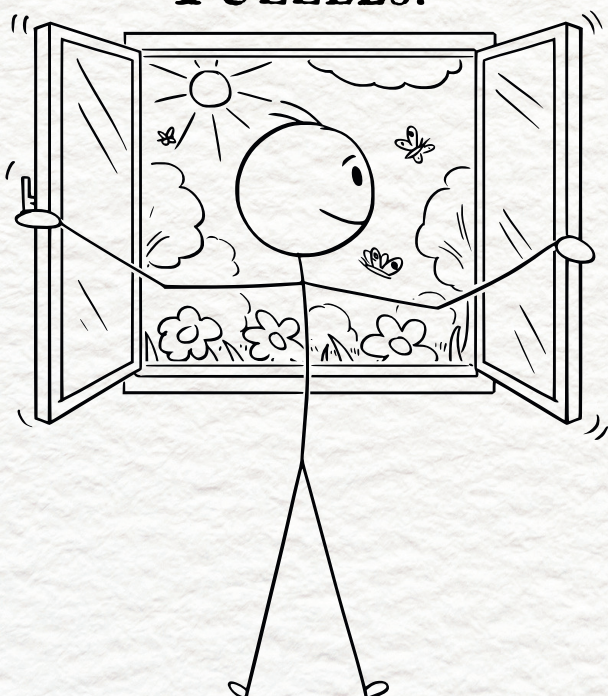
THEME PRESENTATION - PEACE WITH CREATION [HTTPS://SEASONOFCREATION.ORG/RESOURCES/](https://seasonofcreation.org/resources/)

ACTIVITIES



Find the following words:
 Creed, Laudato Si, Christian, Animals, Creation, Brother,
 Family, Cantic, Sister, Assisi, Moon, Nicene, Harmony,
 Kindness, Peace, Kairos, God, Sun, Francis, Love,
 Father, Stars, Steward, Mother

CAN YOU SOLVE THE CREATION PUZZLES?



Across

1. A hymn or chant
3. A person responsible for God's Creation
5. Our shared home with God's Creation
8. Pope Francis' Encyclical on the Environment
9. Freedom from disturbance, tranquility
10. Unconditional ..

Down

2. We are one
4. 'Cantic of ...'
6. The name of a pope and saint
7. Theme for the Jubilee Year

CONNECT THE DOTS!



HINT: WHAT
NATIONAL
BIRD IS THIS?

IT IS YOUR TURN TO CREATE.
WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR YOUR
WORLD AS A STEWARD OF CREATION?

