



Suggested Prayers for the Feast of St. Francis

Prayers of Petition

- Lord, grant us the grace to respect and care for your creation.
Lord, hear our prayer.
- Lord, bless all of your creatures as a sign of your wondrous love.
Lord, hear our prayer.
- Lord, help us to end the suffering of the poor and bring healing to all of your creation.
Lord, hear our prayer.
- Lord, help us to use our technological inventiveness to undo the damage we have done to your creation and to sustain your gift of nature.
Lord, hear our prayer.

American Catholics . . . are learning more, caring more, and doing more about the environment and threats to it. As a community of faith, we are also seeking to understand more clearly the ethical and religious dimensions of this challenge.

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops,
Renewing the Earth, 2



Suggested Prayers for the Feast of St. Francis

St. Francis's Canticle of the Sun

○ most High, almighty, good Lord God,
to you belong praise, glory, honor, and all blessing!

Praised be my Lord God with all creatures;
and especially our brother the sun,
which brings us the day, and the light;
fair is he, and shining with a very great splendor:
○ Lord, he signifies you to us!

Praised be my Lord for our sister the moon,
and for the stars,
which God has set clear and lovely in heaven.

Praised be my Lord for our brother the wind,
and for air and cloud, calms and all weather,
by which you uphold in life all creatures.

Praised be my Lord for our sister water,
which is very serviceable to us,
and humble, and precious, and clean.

Praised be my Lord for brother fire,
through which you give us light in the darkness:
and he is bright, and pleasant, and very mighty,
and strong.





Suggested Prayers for the Feast of St. Francis

(St. Francis's Canticle of the Sun cont.)

Praised be my Lord for our mother the Earth,
which sustains us and keeps us,
and yields diverse fruits,
and flowers of many colors, and grass.

Praised be my Lord for all those who pardon
one another for God's love's sake,
and who endure weakness and tribulation;
blessed are they who peaceably shall endure,
for you, O most High, shall give them a crown!

Praised be my Lord for our sister,
the death of the body,
from which no one escapes.
Woe to him who dies in mortal sin!

Blessed are they who are found walking
by your most holy will,
for the second death shall have no
power to do them harm.

Praise you, and bless you the Lord,
and give thanks to God, and serve God
with great humility.

(St. Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226)



Suggested Prayers for the Feast of St. Francis

Pledge of Commitment to Protect and Heal God's Creation

The following Pledge of Commitment may be read in unison or in alternation.

We have come to renew our covenant with God and with one another in Christ Jesus, our Lord. We have come to help protect God's creation.

We have come as followers of Jesus to commit ourselves anew to one another and to heal injustice and poverty.

We have come to stand together against all threats to life.

We have come to discover some new beauty every day in God's creation: the sunrise and sunset, birds, flowers and trees, rainbows in the sky, the stars, the many forms of life in the forest.

We have come to listen to the "music of the universe"—water flowing over rocks, the wind, trees bending in the wind, raindrops pattering on the roof.

We will remember always that God speaks to us through the beauty of his creation, and we will try our best to answer God's call to reverence all that he has created.

