

On Care for our Common Home
The Prayers of Pope Francis from Laudato Si'



A prayer for our earth

All-powerful God,
 you are present in the whole universe
 and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
 that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live
 as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
O God of the poor,
 help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten
 of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,
 that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
 that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts
 of those who look only for gain
 at the expense of the poor and the earth.

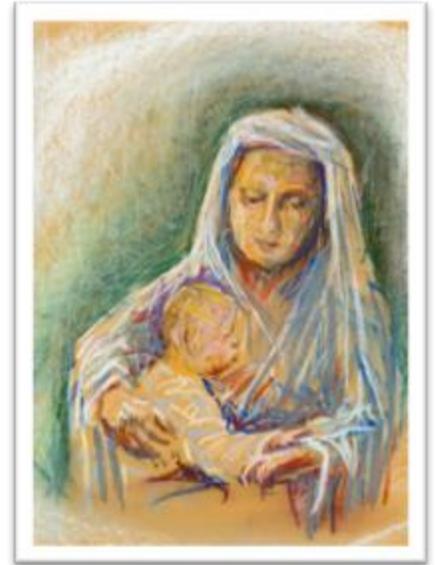
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
 to be filled with awe and contemplation,
 to recognize that we are profoundly united
 with every creature
 as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
 for justice, love and peace.

A Christian prayer in union with creation

Father, we praise you with all your creatures.
They came forth from your all-powerful hand;
 they are yours, filled with your presence and your tender love.
Praise be to you!
 Son of God, Jesus,
 through you all things were made.
You were formed in the womb of Mary our Mother,
 you became part of this earth,
 and you gazed upon this world with human eyes.
Today you are alive in every creature in your risen glory.
Praise be to you!
Holy Spirit, by your light
 you guide this world towards the Father's love
 and accompany creation as it groans in travail.
You also dwell in our hearts
 and you inspire us to do what is good.
Praise be to you!
Triune Lord, wondrous community of infinite love,
 teach us to contemplate you
 in the beauty of the universe, for all things speak of you.
Awaken our praise and thankfulness
 for every being that you have made.
Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined to everything that is.
God of love, show us our place in this world
 as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth,
 for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.
Enlighten those who possess power and money
 that they may avoid the sin of indifference,
 that they may love the common good, advance the weak,
 and care for this world in which we live.
The poor and the earth are crying out.
O Lord, seize us with your power and light,
 help us to protect all life,
 to prepare for a better future,
 for the coming of your Kingdom
 of justice, peace, love and beauty.
Praise be to you! Amen.



Canticle of the Creatures

by Francis of Assisi

Most high, all powerful, all good Lord!
All praise is yours, all glory, all honor,
and all blessing. To you, alone, Most
High, do they belong. No mortal lips are
worthy to pronounce your name.



Be praised, my Lord,
through all your
creatures, especially
through my lord
Brother Sun, who
brings the day; and
you give light through
him. And he is beautiful and radiant in
all his splendor! Of you, Most High, he
bears the likeness.

Be praised, my Lord, through Sister
Moon and the stars; in the heavens you
have made them, precious and beautiful.

Be praised, my Lord, through Brothers
Wind and Air, and clouds and storms,
and all the weather, through which you
give your creatures sustenance.

Be praised, My Lord,
through Sister Water;
she is very useful, and
humble, and
precious, and pure.



Be praised, my Lord,

through Brother Fire, through whom
you brighten the night. He is beautiful
and cheerful, and powerful and strong.

Be praised, my Lord, through our sister
Mother Earth, who feeds us and rules us,
and produces various fruits with colored
flowers and herbs.

Be praised, my Lord, through those who
forgive for love of you; through those
who endure sickness and trial. Happy
those who endure in peace, for by you,
Most High, they will be crowned.



Be praised, my Lord,
through our Sister
Bodily Death, from
whose embrace no
living person can
escape. Woe to
those who die in
mortal sin! Happy
those she finds doing your most holy
will. The second death can do no harm
to them.

Praise and bless my Lord, and give
thanks, and serve him with great
humility.

(translated by Bill Barrett from the Umbrian text
of the Assisi codex.)