

# The Canticle of the Creatures

*This is perhaps the best known of St Francis' writings, and one of the best loved and most used. It has a particular resonance today when people are seeking to forge a new relationship with creation. It was written towards the end of Francis' life; the first part when he was seriously ill, probably in 1225; the second part in an attempt to make peace between the Mayor and Bishop of Assisi, who had quarrelled, and the final verse on his deathbed.*

Most High, all powerful, good Lord,  
yours are the praises, the glory, the  
honour  
and all blessing.

To you alone, Most High, do they belong  
and no human is worthy to mention your  
name.

Praised be you, my Lord, with all your  
creatures,  
especially Sir Brother Sun,  
who is the day and through whom you  
give us light.

And he is beautiful and radiant with great  
splendour;  
and bears a likeness of you, Most High  
One.

Praised be you, my Lord, through Sister  
Moon and the stars:  
in heaven you formed them clear and  
precious and beautiful.

Praised be you, my Lord, through Brother  
Wind;  
and through the air, cloudy and serene,  
and every kind of weather,  
through which you give sustenance to  
your creatures.

Praised be you, my Lord, through Sister  
Water,  
who is very useful and humble and  
precious and chaste.

Praised be you, my Lord, through Brother  
Fire,  
through whom you light the night:  
and he is beautiful and playful and robust  
and strong.

Praised be you, my Lord, through our  
Sister, Mother Earth,  
who sustains and governs us  
and who produces various fruit  
with coloured flowers and herbs.

Praised be you, my Lord,  
through those who give pardon for your  
love  
and bear infirmity and tribulation.

Blessèd are those who endure in peace:  
for by you, Most High, shall they be  
crowned.

Praised be you, my Lord, for our Sister,  
Bodily Death,  
from whom no one living can escape:  
woe to those who die in mortal sin.

Blessèd are those whom death will find  
in your most holy will,  
for the second death shall do them no  
harm.

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

*From:*

<https://www.anglicanfranciscans.org/index.php/franciscan-prayers>