

### *The Canticle of the Creatures*

By St. Francis of Assisi

**Leader:** Most high, all powerful Good God,  
All praise is Yours, all glory,  
all honour, and all blessing.

**Right side:**

To You, alone, Most High, do they belong.  
No mortal lips are worthy  
to pronounce Your name.  
All praise be Yours, my Lord,  
Through all You have made.

**Left side:**

And first my Brother Sun, who brings the day;  
and through whom You give us light.  
How beautiful is he,  
how radiant in all his splendor;  
All Praise be Yours, my Lord,  
through Sister Moon and the stars, in the heav-  
ens You have made them,  
Bright, and precious and fair.

**Right side:**

All praise be Yours, my Lord,  
Through Brothers wind and air,  
and fair and stormy.  
All weather moods,  
By which You cherish all that You have made.  
All praise be Yours, my Lord,  
through Sister Water,  
So useful, humble, precious and pure.

**Left side:**

All praise be Yours, my Lord,  
through Brother Fire,  
Through whom You brighten up the night  
How beautiful is he, how cheerful!  
Full of power and strength.

**Right side:**

All praise be Yours, my Lord,  
through our Sister Mother Earth,  
who sustains us and governs us,  
And produces various fruits with coloured flowers  
and herbs.

**Left side:**

All praise be Yours, my Lord,  
Through those who grant pardon  
for love of You;  
Through those who endure sickness and trial.  
Happy are those who endure in peace,  
By You, Most High, they will be crowned.



*Closing Prayer: A Prayer of  
St. Francis of Assisi*

**Leader:** Let us pray together:

**All:** Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love.  
Where there is injury, pardon,  
Where there is doubt, faith,  
Where there is despair, hope,  
Where there is darkness, light,  
And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled, as to console;  
To be understood, as to understand;  
To be loved, as to love;  
For it is in giving that we receive—  
It is pardoning that we are pardoned;  
And it is in dying that we are  
born to eternal life.

**Leader:** St. Francis of Assisi,

**All:** pray for us.

Compiled by Les Miller and Melinda Rapallo  
York Catholic District School Board

## **St. Francis of Assisi**

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**Feast Day—  
October 4th**



## Introduction

October 4th is the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi.

St. Francis was born at Assisi in Umbria, Italy. He had a dream in which God called him to his service, and he began to care for the sick. In his life and preaching, Francis emphasized simplicity and poverty, relying on God's providence rather than material wealth. Many people are drawn to his sincerity, piety, and joy. In all his actions, Francis sought to live like Christ did in the Gospels. His Feast Day is October 4th. He is known as the *lover of all creation*.

## Opening Prayer: All Creation is Yours

Leader: Let us pray...

All creation is Yours;

The steamy rain forests and the barren, rocky desert, the lonely apartment and the crowded city street;

The power of the atom and the majesty of the stars,

The dark depths of the Atlantic and the windy heights of Everest;

The house martin, the rhino and the pilot whale;

The newest baby at the maternity hospital and the frail old person.

Creator God, we are all Yours, conceived in Your mind long ago, brought to birth through the patience of evolution, redeemed by the love of Jesus.



Teach us to follow You through Jesus Christ, who is Your pattern for all humanity.

—Nigel Collinson

## Scripture Reading: Matthew 6:25-34

A reading from the Gospel of Mark.  
Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well. 'Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Let the day's own trouble be sufficient for the day.'

## Responsive Prayer: Creation Song

**Reader 1:** My spirit sings in blessing of the sacredness of the earth, of the rootedness of all things and humbleness to grow.

**All:** My spirit sings in blessing. Alleluia. Blessed be.

**Reader 2:** My spirit sings in blessing of abundance freely shared, of lavish hospitality and the extravagance of grace.

**All:** My spirit sings in blessing. Alleluia. Blessed be.

**Reader 3:** My spirit sings in blessing of life that's lived in joy, of trust that flows in welcome and a universe of love.

**All:** My spirit sings in blessing. Alleluia. Blessed be.

**Reader 4:** My spirit sings in blessing of the spirit that creates, of the call of the Creator, and partake in God's delight.

**All:** My spirit sings in blessing. Alleluia. Blessed be. Alleluia. Blessed be.

—Jan Berry

