

Canticle of Brother Sun

One of Saint Francis of Assisi's most well-known prayers is the "Canticle of Brother Sun." In it he praises God the Creator for the sun and moon, stars, fire and water. He acknowledges all of these as gifts from God without which we cannot live.

Using the prayer below, lead a short prayer service praying for a universal conversion of heart and commitment to caring for creation.

Speaker 1:

Praised be You my Lord with all Your creatures,
especially Sir Brother Sun,
Who is the day through whom You give us light.
And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendour,
Of You Most High, he bears the likeness.

Speaker 2:

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,
In the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair.

Speaker 3:

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air,
And fair and stormy, all weather's moods,
by which You cherish all that You have made.

Speaker 4:

Praised be You my Lord through Sister Water,
So useful, humble, precious and pure.

Speaker 5:

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

Speaker 6:

Praised be You my Lord through our Sister,
Mother Earth, who sustains
and governs us,
producing varied fruits with coloured flowers and herbs.