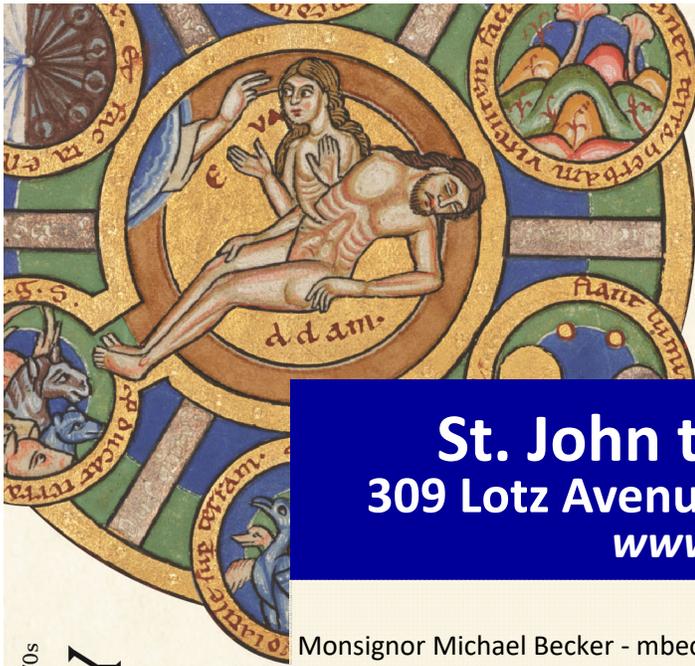


Detail, Anonymous, *The Creation of the World*, Germany, c. 1170s

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 3, 2021

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From the beginning of creation,
God made them male and female.
For this reason a man
shall leave his father and mother
and be joined to his wife,
and the two shall become one flesh.

MARK 10:6-8

St. John the Evangelist Church
309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 814-942-5503
www.stjohnsaltoona.org

PASTORAL STAFF

Monsignor Michael Becker - mbecker253@aol.com; allinall214@gmail.com
Rev. Nelson Javier, TOR - njavier@dioceseaj.org
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Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary - stjohsecretary@atlanticbb.net
Iris Tatar - Director of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd - iristat38@gmail.com - (814) 215-7071
Mark Krepich - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults - mark.krepich@gmail.com
Ken Dunmire - Maintenance

NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

LECTORS

Sat. Oct. 9 - 4:00 PM - Joyce Cunningham,
Maria Spayd
Sun. Oct. 10 - 8:00 AM - Bill Foose, Norma Foose
Sun. Oct. 10 - 11:00 AM - Patrick Schurr, Bob Olson

ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Oct. 9 - 4:00 PM - NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED
Sun. Oct. 10 - 8:00 AM - Mai Linh Do, Keaton Swope
Sun. Oct. 10-11:00 AM - Kaelab Ruggles, Aidan Schurr

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Oct. 9 - 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, Lou Ann Clark
Sun. Oct. 10 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. Oct. 10 - 11:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan,
Kenneth Gorman

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

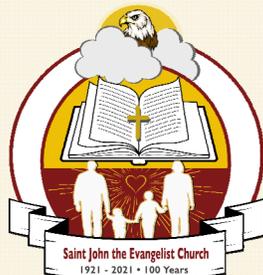
Sat. Oct. 9 - 4:00 PM - Carolyn English, Judy Sneath,
Paula VanSickel, Larry VanSickel
Sun. Oct. 10 - 8:00 AM - Helen Miller, Ed Stoltz, Diane
Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky
Sun. Oct. 10 - 11:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Mary Grace
Horton, Peg Madden, Dolores Capriotti

SACRISTAN

Sat. Oct. 9 - 4:00 PM - Joyce Cunningham
Sun. Oct. 10 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci
Sun. Oct. 10 - 11:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

SCRIP

Sat. Oct. 9 - 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli
Sun. Oct. 10 - 8:00 AM - Erika & Heather Yasolsky
Sun. Oct. 10 - 11:00 AM - Peg Madden,
Marge Rudolph



October Prayer Intention of Pope Francis *Missionary disciples*

We pray that every baptized person may be engaged
in evangelization, available to the mission, by being
witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.

A Few Words from the Pastor:

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD TO BEGIN ON OCTOBER 9TH! Our Atrium is prepared and we are ready to welcome children to a deeper relationship to God through the Good Shepherd. If you have a child or grandchild who is aged 3 – 5, and would like to register for this program, please call the parish office at your earliest convenience. Our sessions will be held on Saturday mornings at 9:00 AM. Our catechist will be contacting those parents who show interest, and will be meeting with each family individually for an orientation! God is so good to us in revealing to our little ones the Good Shepherd!

ROSARY MONTH! The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7th. It was instituted to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.



BLESSING OF PETS - Each year as we celebrate the feast of St. Francis of Assisi (October 4) all are invited to bring their pets to church for our annual pet blessing. Our blessing of pets here at St. John's will take place today, Sunday, October 3, at 1 o'clock in the front circle. We will also be taking contributions for the Humane Society!

FRANCIS OF ASSISI - Pope John Paul II named Francis the patron saint "of those who promote ecology" in 1979. Francis is the patron of those who cultivate ecological consciousness, but that means a lot more than being the patron of environmental educators. His example really points to a mystical or a spiritual vision for all the created world as brother and sister, as he describes in his Canticle of the Creatures.

We are invited to look to Francis as an example of someone who prayed in nature and discovered more about God and himself through the practice of contemplative prayer in nature. Francis spent a third to half of each year praying in nature and the wilderness, living in hermitages, caves, and on mountainsides, interspersing his prayer with preaching. There was something about that experience of being intimately related to creation itself that helped him grow more fully into the mystery of God. And that's what we are desperately in need of today, because we are so alienated from the earth and from ourselves. As our Season of Creation concludes on his Feast Day, October 4, we are urged to recommit ourselves to the care of our common home.

A CENTENNIAL GARDEN? The large tree in front of the church was diseased and damaged and has been removed. This gives us a space for some creative thinking and planning on how we might utilize that space. How might we develop that space to create a Centennial Garden, as we celebrate our hundredth anniversary? Your input is very much appreciated!

THE EUCHARIST IN SCRIPTURE: Beginning Oct. 17th, we will begin a 6-week ADULT ED program called "The Eucharist in Scripture". We will be meet in the cafeteria on Sunday mornings until Nov. 21, the weekend before Thanksgiving. Videos will begin at 9:30, followed by our discussion. We will forgo drinks and treats during these sessions to avoid concerns with the virus.

If you signed up in the spring of 2020, have the workbooks and would like to complete the program this fall, just check the box by your name on the sheets on the card table in the Gathering Space.

If you did not previously sign up and would like to participate with us, just add your name and phone number on the blank spaces and we will see about getting workbooks.

If you have a workbook, but will be unable to join us, and are willing to offer your book to someone else, please just drop it off on the card table in the Gathering Space and we will give it to someone who will use it.

If you have questions about the program, please email or speak to Deacon Gene.

"Creation" has a broader meaning than "nature"

In the Judaeo-Christian tradition, the word "creation" has a broader meaning than "nature", for it has to do with God's loving plan in which every creature has its own value and significance. Nature is usually seen as a system which can be studied, understood and controlled, whereas creation can only be understood as a gift from the outstretched hand of the Father of all, and as a reality illuminated by the love which calls us together into universal communion. (76)



**SEASON OF
CREATION**
SEPTEMBER 1-OCTOBER 4

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

- Just a reminder that Parents/Students should wear a mask/facial covering when entering the building.
- **October 3: 9:15 - 10:45 CLASS**
- **October 3: Confirmation Service Project Humane Society Collection/Pet Blessing @ 1:00 PM**
- **October 10: NO CLASS**
- **October 17: 9:15 - 10:45 CLASS/ 9th Grade Fall Session - The Creed**

PASTORS AT ST. JOHN'S: Take a look at the display on the kiosk of the 6 pastors we have had at St. John's over the last 100 years. We have been truly blessed in the men who have served here over the years!



LOVE FEAST THANK YOU: Over the past 14 years, many of you fellow parishioners have participated in 1 or more ways in our hosting 2-3 Love Feasts annually with Simpson Temple United Parish. You have bought supplies or participated in setting up, serving & clean-up for the 60-85 guests attending the dinners. Your enthusiasm & compassion had often been complimented by the poor &/or lonely guests that you received as Christ. Unfortunately, a combination of the pandemic & The Arts Foundation assuming ownership of Simpson Temple's resources have resulted in termination of Love Feasts. Again, thank you to all of you for your efforts & compassionate outreach to those in need in our community.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER:

September 19, 2021

Envelopes	\$ 3,780.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 521.97
Children's Offerings	\$ 8.00
Catholic Register	\$ 25.00
Catholic University	\$ 10.00
Haiti Disaster Relief	\$ 1,322.00
Food Bank Collection	\$ 10.00
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$ 5,676.97</i>
Online Giving	\$ 1,783.00
Total Offertory	\$ 7,459.97

Restore*Repair*Rejoice

Payments/Donations	\$178,876
Pledge Payment Committed	\$10,215
Total Pledges/Donations	\$188,091

2021 Catholic Ministries Drive: Goal \$42,813

Payments/Donations	\$45,550
Pledge Payments Committed	\$400
Total Pledges/Donations	\$45,950

*Over our Goal \$2,737

ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at giny.reeder@gmail.com to add or remove someone from the prayer list. PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING and their caregivers and give thanks for those who have recovered. *Lord we ask for your blessings and care for these and all people in need:*

Aiden • Seth Alexander • Amy B. • Scott Brenneman
Dan Burley • Cari Ann • Michelle Cooney
Mary Lee Madigan-Davis • Betty Dennis
Michael DeStefano • Gary Ellis • Bernadine Farrell
Kathy Felty • Leann Frazier • Matt Gormley
Randy Horton • Alexandra Hudson • Don James
Nancy James • Tim Jimenez • Amy Langenbacher • Lisa
Sherri Maffettone • Genevieve Mathias • Susie Miller
Karrie McCall • Sylvia Louise Mills • Barbara Moore
Ailani Myers • Patricia Olson • Mary Oricko
Linda Pletcher • Connie R • Mary Rajnish
Allison Recker • Vicki Riley • Lauryn Ryan
Olga Romerowicz • Mike Rudolph • Pat Seiler
Bruce Shank • Anne Showalter • Betsy Slat
Tim Temofonte • Bill Teufel • Kathy Wagner
Lois Werfel • Daronda Wooldridge

HOME WITH THE LORD: Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:

Kenneth Farabaugh - uncle of Fred Fornwalt & Cecelia Bloom

May he rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.

DIAPER DRIVE FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES: Thank you to all who have dropped off diapers in the Gathering Space. We will continue to collect diapers for the next four weeks. Catholic Charities is in need of the larger sizes, specifically sizes 4, 5, 6, and 7. Thank you again.

ST. JOSEPH MISSION CHURCH SHRINE AT HART'S SLEEPING PLACE: A Mass celebrating the 191st Anniversary of the Dedication of the Church by Servant of God, Demetrius Gallitzin, will be held on Saturday, October 9, at 4:00 pm with Bishop Mark presiding. **All are welcome!** Directions and full history can be found on the website: www.sjmc1830.com

THE CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION FISH FRIES! We will be having our monthly Fish Fries starting on Friday, October 8th from 3:30p - 6:30p. We will be having DINE IN & TAKE OUT available. Please call (814)535-2698 to place your Take-Out order.

PUMPKINFEST SOUP SALE: Once again St. John's will be operating a Homemade Soup Booth at the Hollidaysburg Pumpkin Festival on Saturday, October 16. All profits will benefit Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Haiti. Are you able to help at the booth that day? Are you willing to donate your own homemade soup? See the enclosed flyer for more information. Sign up sheets for volunteers to make soup or work in the booth are on the kiosk in the Gathering Space.

LAND OF PEACE SALE: On October 16 & 17, our brothers and sisters representing the Land of Peace mission, a non-profit organization, will be with us speaking about the Christian situation in the Holy Land and selling Crucifixes, religious art work, and rosaries; all made of olive wood which is native to Israel and Bethlehem. Since tourism has greatly depleted, Christian families in the holy land, who depend on tourists, have been greatly affected. The goal of this mission is to help the poor and needy families in Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Sale of these goods will help them very much and also give you the opportunity to have "something" authentic from the holy land. Please browse and buy some articles. It is for a good cause and also a help to your personal devotion. Website: www.landofpeace.org.

TOASTY TODDLER COLLECTION:

St. John's Women's Group needs your help! Beginning October 1, we are accepting donations for the Toasty Toddler Program of NEW- Hats, Scarves & Gloves, Coats & Snowsuits for Boys and Girls. Sizes needed-Newborn through Toddler Size 5T and 4, 5, 6, 6x, 7, 8 or Small. There will be a box in the Gathering Space for your donation. Thank you!



ST. FRANCIS ANIMAL DRIVE: Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Prince Gallitzin, Altoona, is holding a "St Francis Animal Drive" to support the local animal shelters during the entire month of October. A box for any donated items such as dog/cat food, toys, cleaning products, paper towels, large garbage bags will be placed in THE Gathering Space. A complete list of needed items is on the box. All gifts are much appreciated by the local Humane Society. Thank You.

GIVE US THIS DAY: This is the last call for subscription orders for Give Us This Day. *Because the subscription runs from December 2021 through November 2022, we need to place our order at the beginning of October.* You can place your \$30 payment in the envelope in the Gathering Space and drop it in the collection. **If you have not already ordered but would like to do so, please call the office this week so that we know how many books to order.**

DOROTHY DAY CENTER TAG SALE: The Dorothy Day Outreach Center is having their Bi-Annual Tag Sale on Saturday, October 16th from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM. The Tag Sale will be located in the Stokes Auxiliary Gym at Saint Francis University. Signage will be found on campus to help locate the gym. Feel free to call (814) 419-8679 with any questions.



**Twenty-seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time
October 3, 2021**

Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

— Mark 10:14

Schedule for the Week

Sunday, October 3 – The 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*
11:00 AM - Mass for *David Petrak* requested by Mary Petrak

Monday, October 4 – Saint Francis of Assisi

8:30 AM - Mass for *Ida Prosperi* requested by John Prosperi

Tuesday, October 5 – Weekday

8:30 AM - Mass for *Reta M. Loth* requested by David & Bonnie Loth

Wednesday, October 6 – Weekday

5:30 PM - Confessions
6:00 PM - Mass for *Bob Cooney* requested by Ginger & Family

Thursday, October 7 – Our Lady of the Rosary

8:30AM– Mass for *Tim & Donna Sheehan* requested by Connie Burket

Friday, October 8 – Weekday

8:30AM– Mass for *Leonard Majestic* requested by Barbara Bundy

Saturday, October 9 - Vigil of The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:00 PM - Confessions
4:00 PM - Mass for *David Petrak* requested by Mary Petrak

Sunday, October 10 – The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Mass for *Ida Prosperi* requested by John Prosperi
11:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jon 1:1 — 2:2, 11; Jon 2:3-5, 8; Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 130:1b-4ab, 7-8; Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11; Ps 86:3-6, 9-10; Lk 11:1-4
Thursday: Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 11:5-13
Friday: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Ps 9:2-3, 6, 16, 8-9; Lk 11:15-26
Saturday: Jl 4:12-21; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Lk 11:27-28
Sunday: Wis 7:7-11; Ps 90:12-17; Heb 4:12-13; Mk 10:17-30 [17-27]

Hollidaysburg Pumpkin Festival

Saturday, October 16, 2021

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

St. John's Haiti Committee



Will be selling Homemade Soups



All profits benefit Sts Peter and Paul Parish

Sign up on the kiosk to help at the booth or donate soup!

Containers available in the gathering space Oct. 9th-10th.

Bring soup to Pumpkinfest-Saturday, Oct. 16th 7:30 - 9:00 am
or when you come to work booth.

Questions? Call Ginny Reeder 695-7671





Soup Suggestions For Hollidaysburg Pumpkin Festival 2021

Taco Joe
Chicken Rice
Cheesy Cauliflower
Zuppa Toscano
Chicken Chili
Tortellini
Italian Wedding
Chicken Pastine
Chicken Taco
French Onion
Creamy Potato
Black Bean Sausage
Broccoli Cheese
Italian Sausage & Tomato
Manhattan Clam
Beef Noodle
Cream of Mushroom
Turkey Rice
Chicken Pot Pie
Chicken Gumbo
New England Clam
Chicken Corn Chowder
Hamburger Potato
Split Pea

Cream of Broccoli
Salsa Tortellini
Sweet Sausage Pepper
Chicken Endive
Butternut Squash
Chili
Pumpkin
Vegetable Beef
Bean & Kale
Southwestern Bean
Ham & Bean
Chicken Noodle
Italian Beef Orzo
Beef Vegetable Pasta
Beef Barley
Minestrone
Cheddar Vegetable
Cream of Potato
Ditalini & Bean
Ham & Lentil
Beef Rice
Cheddar Cheese
Hamburger Vegetable
Stuffed Pepper



Let the children come to me;

do not prevent them,
for the kingdom of God
belongs to such as these.

Mark 10:14

GOD DOES NOT GIVE UP

Our readings today point to God's deep commitment to human relationships. Our passage from Genesis begins with the declaration that God created human persons to be social beings, who can only thrive when they live in deep connection with each other and with God. The author of Hebrews teaches that the coming of Jesus as one of us shows God's radical commitment to human life. Jesus' teaching about divorce, described in today's Gospel, shows God's deep investment in marriage and, implicitly, all human relationships. When our personal relationships with others are distant or broken, God seeks to heal them. When social structures serve to maintain oppression, or to keep groups in ongoing conflict, God is working to overthrow them. Even when we give up on each other, God does not give up. God will work ceaselessly, in us and through us, within all the pain and joy of the human situation.

LIKE A CHILD

Today's passage from Mark's Gospel is in the context of Jesus' teaching about the kingdom, or reign, of God. A common understanding was that entering the kingdom was based on family origin, or achievement, or status in the community. Jesus pushes back on this, and presents a child as a model of receptivity and openness.

This is not to suggest that adults must somehow reject the wisdom gained through adult experience and return to childhood. Adult maturity also includes the difficult journey, usually later in life, of letting go of illusions that we have built up about our own virtue, skills, and autonomy. Jesus' teaching pushes back against our culture, which honors energy and vigor, expertise and achievement. These valuable gifts can fail us if we cannot accept our dependence on God who provides and cultivates these gifts. We can accept God's graciousness in our life when we open our hearts as a child does.

PROUD TO BE HUMAN

This is the first of seven consecutive Sundays that we will share passages from the Letter to the Hebrews. The letter is an extended sermon by an unknown author directed to a Christian community where likely many were converts from Judaism. The author attempts to link Jesus to the story of the people of Israel, building toward an image of Christ as God's perfect high priest. Christ the High Priest is described as the central link between humanity and God.

When we reflect upon the life and death of Jesus, we can more deeply accept that through Jesus, God knows what we humans experience. Jesus the High Priest embraces his humanity. In today's passage, the author claims that Jesus is proud to be human, proud to be our brother in the family of God. The letter to the Hebrews is not only a celebration of Christ, it is an affirmation of the dignity of our own human life.

TODAY'S READINGS

Genesis 2:18–24
Psalm 128: 1–2, 3, 4–5, 6
Hebrews 2:9–11
Mark 10:2–16 [2–12]

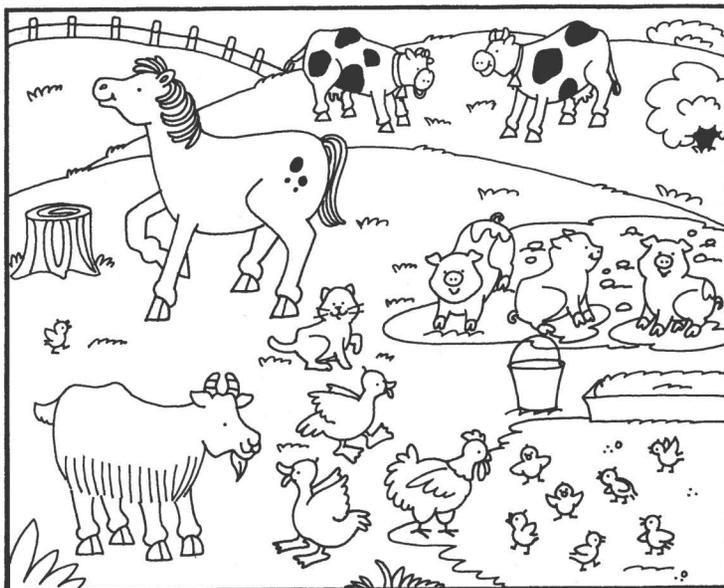
Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 3, 2021

God's Word for Children

God let Adam name all the animals.
 What fun that must have been!
 Count each kind of animal and then
 write that number at the bottom.

Where do we see these types of animals? Circle that place.



 =	 =	 =	 =
 =	 =	 =	 =

jungle farm city

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Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

People brought their boys and girls to Jesus so he could bless them.

The disciples tried to discourage them. But Jesus said,

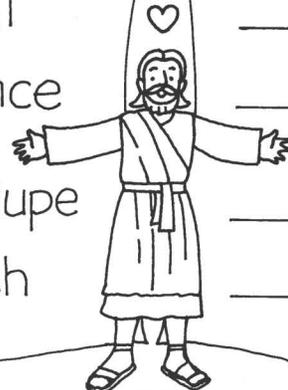
“Let the children come to me” (Mark 10:14).

Jesus loves every child. And he loves you!

Use each of these letters once to complete the spelling of
 some boys' and girls' names.

A B C D E F G H

Girls	Boys
__bigail	__hris
__eyonce	__enzel
__uadalupe	__than
__annah	__eng




“Let the children come to me.”
Mark 10 : 14



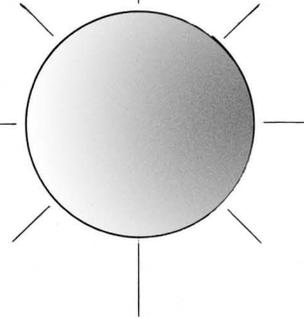
CATHOLIC CORNER

CANTICLE OF THE CREATURES

Do you have brothers and sisters?
Did you ever think of the sun and moon as your brother or sister?

On October 4 we celebrate the feast of St. Francis.
Francis loved all of creation and was grateful for all the wonderful things God created for us. He taught everyone to appreciate and be thankful for all of God's gifts.

He wrote a song of gratitude and praise called “Canticle of the Creatures,” naming many parts of creation and describing how they praise God just by being what they were created to be.



He sang of “Brother Sun” and “Sisters Moon and Stars.”
He called wind and air his brothers and water his sister.
“Brother Fire” was praised for his light and power.

“Sister Earth” was thanked for feeding us with her bounty and giving us the beauty of flowers.

He even honored “Sister Death.”

Francis's canticle reminds us that all creation gives praise to God. So should we!

Think of some other parts of
God's wonderful creation
not named by Francis.

Make a list and describe them as
“Brother” or “Sister,” for example,
“Brother Fox” and “Sister Cloud.”

Draw a picture for each example.

Try to come up with one picture each day.
Collect them into a booklet and use them as part of
your prayer before you go to sleep each night.



This could become a very large book!
You could add a picture every day of the year
and never run out of reasons to praise and thank God.

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