

## **Canticle of Creation**

**In the morning, we spent time on some of the significant events in the life of St. Francis as portrayed on the Tavola and then took time to reflect on significant events in our life as we continue our journey.**

**At this time, we reflect on the Canticle of Creation, one of the well known writings of St. Francis where he takes each aspect of God's creation to give glory and praise to God by being what it was created to be.**

**The canticle is a spontaneous prayer flowing from the heart of St. Francis. There are distinguished segments in the canticle.**

**The first 6 lines are devoted to God alone, our Creator, whose deserves first place in our reverence and praise.**

**In the next 16 lines of the Canticle, we focus on the various "brother" and "sister" creatures that God created. We praise God for their beauty and preciousness and for the ways they**

**reflect God's own goodness.**

**The following lines were added later to the original parts of the Canticum. They inspire us in our day to seek reconciliation with one another out of love for God.**

**Finally, shortly before his own death, he added the last lines to his canticum on sister death.**

**We will pray the canticum slowly by alternating sides.**

### **SLIDE PRESENTATION**

**Most high, all powerful, all good, Lord  
All praise is yours, the glory, the honor  
and all blessing.  
To you alone, Most High, do they belong,  
And no human is worthy to pronounce Your name.**

**All praise be yours, my Lord, with all your creatures, especially Brother Sun, who brings the day; and through whom You give us light. How beautiful and radiant with great splendor; and bears a likeness of you, Most High One through all that you made.**

**All praise be yours, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars; in the heavens you formed them bright and precious and beautiful.**

All praise be yours, my Lord, through Brother wind and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every kind of weather, through whom You give sustenance to Your creatures.

All praise be yours, my Lord, through Sister water, who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.

All praise by yours my Lord, through Brother Fire, through whom you light the night, and he is beautiful, and playful and robust and strong.

All praise by yours, my Lord, through Sister Mother Earth, our Mother, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with colored flowers.

All praise be yours, my Lord, through those who give pardon for your love, and bear infirmity and tribulation.

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

All praise be yours, my Lord, through Sister bodily death, from whom no one living can escape, for the second death can do no harm. Praise and bless my Lord, and give Him thanks, and serve him with great humility.

**In the canticle, we see how Francis saw God's goodness, radiance and beauty in all of creation.**

**He saw Creation as the outpouring of God's love into the Universe and revealing God's love for us and God's beauty.**

**We praise God for the beauty of his creation and the preciousness for the way that they reflect his goodness.**

**To live in the spirit of St Francis , the theme of our gathering today, is to live knowing that all of creation is a place to encounter God. The world is full of signs of God's presence, with God telling us what we need to hear and see and touch through the bits and pieces we encounter in a day.**

**And so, we continue in the of Living in the Spirit of St. Francis by taking a**

**A Nature Walk with St. Francis**

**SLIDE PRESENTATION**

**Be mindful of the sounds, the sights, the smells. Whatever you encounter, praise God for his creation and for this moment with him.**

**Whether it is a bird chirping, a leaf floating in the air to the**

ground, or the gentle breeze upon your face, thank God for his care and love upon even the most fragile of creation.

Our time is about our awareness of the Beauty of creation and engaging in expressions of gratitude, many from within you and others from the outside world.

You are encouraged to:

- walk in silence
- be mindful of your own body, your eyes to see ....  
your legs to walk...
- notice what you hear, smell or feel
- offer gratitude as you walk along

Two ways to walk:

- engage in the walk continually moving and tying  
your words of gratitude into your steps
- walk at a slower pace , a stop and go, more
- contemplative practice

As you begin, set an intention for your walk ...

I am thankful for ....

**I have gratitude for ...**

**I am grateful for ...**

**Choose what is best for your walk.**

**You may choose to walk to the grotto, to the stations of the cross, to the cemetery or on the roadway of the property ...**

**If you are not comfortable in taking a walk, you may consider sitting in the reflection chapel or the main chapel at this time.....**

**When you finish your walk, you are invited to write down what you are thankful for on the sheet marked thankful..**

**Place your sheet in the basket at the door of the chapel. The basket will be placed at the altar during our mass later today.**

**Be on your way to thank God for all that demonstrates his love for you.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**2:30 Chapel for  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

**Reflection on Francis' love of the Eucharist and Mary**

**Rosary**

**After the break we will prepare for Mass and the**

**Commitment ceremony. Associates involved, please  
meet in area by the sacristy.**

**3:30 break**

**4:00 Mass**

**Commitment ceremony**