



What have the Franciscan's done for us?

A number of familiar devotional practices were actually introduced by St Francis and the Franciscans. These include:

The Angelus

This traditional prayer was heavily promoted and structured by the early Franciscans. In 1220 St Francis travelled to Egypt and The Holy Land during the crusades.

He was impressed by the Muslim call to prayer and urged his followers to introduce a public signal so that ordinary people could stop what they were doing and praise God together. Over the centuries liturgical texts and officially institutionalised practices refined the devotion and it was a Franciscan Pope Sixtus IV who cemented the three times a day schedule in 1475

The Stations of the Cross.

After being appointed official guardians of the Holy Places of Jerusalem. The Franciscan's popularised this devotion so Christians could retrace Christs steps without travelling to the Holy Land.

The Nativity Scene

Was first created by St Francis. In 1223 he created a live nativity scene in Greccio Italy to help ordinary people connect with Christs humble birth.