



St Francis of Assisi

A Jubilee Year

Feast Day 4th October





JUBILEE YEAR OF

SAINT FRANCIS

1226- 2026



Pope Leo has declared a special Jubilee Year for St Francis of Assisi
10th January 2026 until 10th January 2027



2026 marks the 800th anniversary of St Francis of Assisi's death in 1226.

Pope Leo XIV declared that it will be a special Year of St Francis in which we are all called to become saints in our world, following St Francis' example. We are called to model a holiness of life and witness to peace

Pope Leo has said:

"This Year of St Francis spurs all of us, each according to our possibilities to imitate the poor man of Assisi, to form ourselves as far as possible on the model of Christ... may the hope that has seen us as pilgrims now be transformed into zeal and fervour of active charity."

The Year runs from 10 January 2026, the closing of the Jubilee Year "Pilgrims of Hope", until 10 January 2027.

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A better world needs all of us

Pope Leo Declares Jubilee Year of Saint Francis

*Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago
went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace,
intercede for us before the Lord.*

*You recognized true peace
in the Crucifix of San Damiano,
teach us to seek in Him
the source of all reconciliation
that breaks down every wall.*

*You who, unarmed,
crossed the lines of war
and misunderstanding,
give us the courage to build bridges
where the world raises up boundaries.*

*In this time afflicted
by conflict and division,
intercede for us so that
we may become peacemakers:
unarmed and disarming
witnesses of the peace
that comes from Christ.*

Amen

Pope Leo XIV





St Francis was a peacemaker and a man of faith who loved all of God's creation.

Listen to the story of St Francis and the Wolf.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qkfG_Uk_M4E

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

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;
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 in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born
to eternal life.

Amen.

*Metanoia
Grace*





Prayer: The canticle of the sun

Extract from Canticle of the Sun, by St Francis of Assisi

Most High, all-powerful, all-good Lord,
all praise is yours, all glory, honour and blessings.
To you alone, Most High, do they belong;
no mortal lips are worthy to pronounce your name.

We praise you, Lord, for all your creatures,
especially for 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 your likeness.

We praise you, Lord, for Sister Moon and the stars,
in the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair.
We praise you, Lord, for Brothers Wind and Air,
fair and stormy, all weather's moods,
by which you cherish all that you have made.

We praise you, Lord, for Sister Water,
so useful, humble, precious and pure.
We praise you, Lord, for Brother Fire,
through whom you light the night.
He is beautiful, playful, robust, and strong.

We praise you, Lord, for Sister Earth,
who sustains us
with her fruits, coloured flowers, and herbs.
We praise and bless you, Lord, and give you thanks,
and serve you in all humility.



<https://cafod.org.uk/pray/prayer-resources/canticle-of-the-sun>



A prayer from St Francis based on Cantic of the Sun
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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3X4tv19Muk4>



Novena to Saint Francis

Nine brief reflections asking St Francis of Assisi to pray for us and our world, based on his beautiful Cantic of the Sun, which celebrated its 800th anniversary in 2025.

These reflections of penitence and praise inspire us to care for the earth and our most vulnerable brothers and sisters.

Join us in prayer in the nine days leading up to the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4 October, or at any time during the special Year of St Francis in 2026.

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<https://cafod.org.uk/pray/prayer-resources/novena-to-st-francis>



Pope Francis

1936 - 2025



Pope Francis chose his Papal name in honour of St Francis. He was inspired to show how important it is to look after our common home and God's wonderful creation.

<https://cafod.org.uk/education/primary-teaching-resources/laudato-si-for-children>

<https://cafod.org.uk/news/uk-news/celebrating-10-years-of-laudato-si>



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Melancia Grace



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