

<https://theconversation.com/birds-worms-rabbits-francis-of-assisi-was-said-to-have-loved-them-all-but-todays-pet-blessings-on-his-feast-day-might-have-seemed-strange-to-the-13th-century-saint-211865>

[Video from the Cathedral of St. John the Divine](#)

## The Canticle of the Sun St. Francis of Assisi, 1224

The Highest, all powerful, good Lord,  
Yours are the praises, the glory, the honour, and all blessing.

To You alone, The Highest, do they belong,  
and no man is worthy to mention Your name.

Be praised, my Lord, through all your creatures,  
especially Sir Brother Sun,  
who brings the day; and you give light through him.  
And he is beautiful and radiant in all his splendour!  
Of you, The Highest, he bears the likeness.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,  
in heaven you formed them clear and precious and beautiful.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Wind,  
and through the air, cloudy and serene,  
and every kind of weather through which you give sustenance to Your  
creatures.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water,  
which is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire,  
through whom you light the night and he is beautiful

and playful and robust and strong.

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

Praised be You, 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, The Highest, they shall be crowned.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death,  
from whom no living man can escape.

Woe to those who die in mortal sin.

Blessed are those who will find Your most holy will,  
for the second death shall do them no harm.

Praise and bless my Lord, and give Him thanks and serve Him with  
great humility.