DERRY DIOCESAN CATECHETICAL CENTRE

Welcome to the Story of Saint Francis of Assisi

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In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

God wants us to treat the world with respect and love because God created it for our use and enjoyment. He wants us to develop the world and to share its blessings with all people.

St. Francis was like God in the way he loved Creation. He loved birds; He loved animals wild and tame. He loved fish. He experienced all God's creation as family.

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St Francis of Assisi, Italy, 1181

Life changed!

Wealthy family Merchants

Happy, charming popular, Spoilt

Famous!
Soldier!
Fight!

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Poor
Preach
Take up cross

Patron saint
Animals
Ecologists
Merchants

Serve the poor
Care for all creation

Live a simple life
Community

Died 4 October 1226
Age 45

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Now we will read and listen to the reading which inspired St Francis to give up all his wealth

A reading from the Gospel of Mark (Mark 10-17-22)

Jesus looked steadily at Rich Man and he was filled with love for him, and he said, 'You need only do one thing more. Go and sell what you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, and follow me.' But the man's face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

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Intercessions

Leader: You are the Lord God who made each one of us and all living things. You made a place for each living thing and a world for all living things to share in proper balance.

R: ***Blessed are you Lord, God of all Creation***

1 We shall not destroy the soil or the living seas ***R***

2 We shall not release poisons or cause great changes in the climate ***R***

3 We shall not damage the ozone layer or the atmosphere ***R***

4 We shall not strip the land of trees and protected vegetation ***R***

We shall not upset the balance of the different species ***R***

Leader:

Honour the life of all living beings.
Honour the order of nature and the balance of all created things.
Care for them well.
They are God's gift from the dawn of time and will not be offered to you again.

For a moment, let us call to mind all our prayers and intentions… United as a family we pray together the prayer that Jesus taught us.....**Our Father**

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Concluding Prayer

Saint Francis was at home in the natural world.

He loved all that God made.

He loved it because God made it.

Lord, make us like Saint Francis.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen

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