



We Mercies

Care for Creation

As you take the next step, remember the traditional custodians of the land

A spirituality of the earth.

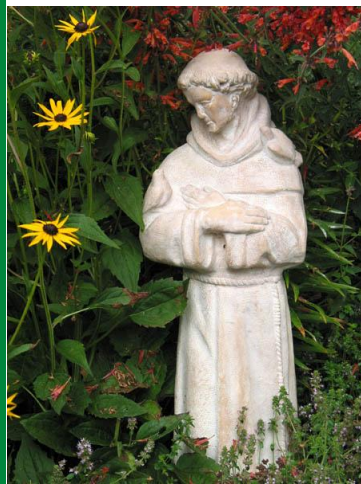
To learn more about Franciscan spirituality, read *Care for Creation* by Delio, Warner and Wood.

THE FRANCISCAN TRADITION



In the current context of environmental crisis and with the election of Pope Francis – the first pope of that name – the relevance of the Franciscan spiritual tradition seems significant and worth exploring.

John Paul II named Francis of Assisi the patron saint of ecology.



Francis' s relationship with nature was ecologically ideal. He loved creation passionately and felt and acted fellowship with all creatures.

The Franciscan tradition tells us that the first book of revelation is the book of creation.

It also insists that creation and the Incarnation are integrally related.

*August
2014*

Praised be You, my Lord, with all Your creatures,
especially Brother Sun,
Who is the day and through whom You give us light.
And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor;
And bears a likeness of you, Most high One.

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 whom you give sustenance to your creatures.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water,
Who 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 our Sister Mother Earth,
Who sustains and governs us,
And who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs.

(From *The Canticle of Creatures* by Francis of Assisi).

