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# Poem That Inspired Ecology Encyclical

English translation of Saint Francis' "Canticle of the Sun" (written in the Umbrian dialect), from which Pope Francis took the title for his encyclical "Laudato Si."

06/16/2015

## English translation of "Canticle of the Sun"

Most high, all powerful, all good  
Lord!

All praise is Yours, all glory, all  
honor, and all blessing

To You, alone, Most High, do they  
belong.

No mortal lips are worthy to  
pronounce Your name.

Be praised, my Lord, through all Your  
creatures,

especially through my lord Brother  
Sun,

who brings the day; and You give  
light through him.

And he is beautiful and radiant in all  
his splendor!

Of You, Most High, he bears the  
likeness.

Be praised, my Lord, through Sister  
Moon and the stars;

in the heavens You have made them  
bright, precious and beautiful.

Be praised, my Lord, through  
Brothers Wind and Air,

and clouds and storms, and all the  
weather,

through which You give Your  
creatures sustenance.

Be praised, my Lord, through Sister  
Water;

she is very useful, and humble, and  
precious, and pure.

Be praised, my Lord, through Brother  
Fire,

through whom You brighten the  
night.

He is beautiful and cheerful, and  
powerful and strong.

Be praised, my Lord, through our  
sister Mother Earth,

who feeds us and rules us,

and produces various fruits with  
colored flowers and herbs.

Be praised, my Lord, through those  
who forgive for love of You;

through those who endure sickness  
and trial.

Happy those who endure in peace,  
for by You, Most High, they will be  
crowned.

Be praised, my Lord, through our  
sister Bodily Death,

from whose embrace no living  
person can escape.

Woe to those who die in mortal sin!

Happy those she finds doing Your  
most holy will.

The second death can do no harm to  
them.

Praise and bless my Lord, and give  
thanks,

and serve Him with great humility.

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