

## Ask the Cattle, Ask the Birds

Go and ask the cattle, ask the birds of the air to inform you, or tell the creatures that crawl to teach you, and the fishes of the sea to give you instruction. Who cannot learn from all these that the Lord's own hand has done this? In God's hand are the souls of all that live, the spirits of all human kind. (Job 12:7-10)

## Canticle of Brother Sun, Sister Moon

"Most high, omnipotent, good Lord,  
Thine are all praise, glory, honor and all benedictions.  
To Thee alone, Most High, do they belong  
And no man is worthy to name Thee.  
Praise be to Thee, My Lord, with all Thy creatures,  
Especially Brother Sun,  
Who is our day and lightens us therewith.  
Beautiful is he and radiant with great splendor;  
Of Thee, Most High, he bears expression.  
Praise be to Thee, my Lord, for Sister Moon,  
and for the stars  
In the heavens which Thou has formed bright, precious  
and fair.  
Praise be to Thee, my Lord, for Brother Wind,  
And for the air and the cloud of fair and all weather  
Through which Thou givest sustenance to Thy creatures.  
Praise be, my Lord, for Sister Water.  
Who is most useful, humble, precious and chaste.  
Praise be, my Lord, for Brother Fire,  
By whom Thou lightest up the night:  
He is beautiful, merry, robust and strong.  
Praise be, my Lord, for our sister Mother Earth,  
Who sustains and governs us  
And brings forth diverse fruits with many-hued flowers and grass."  
From Frances of Assisi (1181-1226) in his *Canticle of Brother Sun, Sister Moon*.

