

St Francis - Facts

-A very humble saint who loved nature and animals. He always called his animals 'brothers and sisters' as he believed animals and nature were all a part of God's family.

-St. Francis of Assisi is celebrated annually on the 4th October. He is our patron saint of merchants, animals and ecologists. He is remembered for his concern for others and love of animals.

-Saint Francis of Assisi was a Catholic friar who gave up a life of wealth to live a life of poverty. He established the Franciscan Order of friars and the women's Order of the Poor Ladies.

-Francis gave all his money to the church. His father became very angry with him. Francis then left his father's home and took a vow of poverty.

-Francis was known for his love of nature and animals. There are many stories about Saint Francis and his preaching to animals. It is said that one day he was talking to some birds when they began to sing together. Then they flew into the sky and formed the sign of a cross.

-It was also said that Francis could tame wild animals. One story tells of a vicious wolf in the town of Gubbio that was killing people and sheep. The people of the town were frightened and didn't know what to do. Francis went to the town to confront the wolf. At first the wolf growled at Francis and prepared to attack him. However, Francis made the sign of the cross and told the wolf not to hurt anyone else. The wolf then became tame and the town was safe.

-Francis became ill and spent the last few years of his life mostly blind. He died in 1226 while singing Psalm 141. He was declared a saint of the Catholic Church only two years after his death.