

*This Book
Belongs to*

SAINT FRANCIS of Assisi



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Divine Word Missionary

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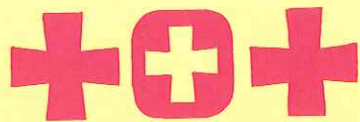
SAINT FRANCIS IS KNOWN TO ALL

THERE is hardly a Saint who is more known and loved by Catholics and non-Catholics alike than Saint Francis of Assisi.

His great aim in life was to find peace. He gave up the things of this world and found peace in God alone. The motto of his life was: "My God and my All!"

He loved God and all His creatures for the love of God. They were all brothers and sisters to him, children of the same Heavenly Father.

Saint Francis can help us to get closer to God and Jesus. By imitating him in his love for God and all creatures, we will imitate Jesus, the Son of God and Savior of All.



BIRTH OF SAINT FRANCIS

SAINTE Francis was born in 1182 in Assisi, one of the oldest cities of Italy. His mother, Donna Pica, wanted to be like the Mother of God. She wanted her son to be born in a stable.

And that is what happened. She had to leave her beautiful bedroom and go to one of the stalls of her stable before her baby could be born. The first cradle of Francis was one of straw in a stable—like Jesus.



FRANCIS DREAMS OF BEING A KNIGHT OF GOD

DONNA brought up her son in the fear of God. She told him stories about brave knights in shining armor mounted on strong horses.

These stories filled Francis with a great desire to do noble things, and even to shed his blood for God as the knights did.

While helping his father in his shop one day, Francis refused alms to a beggar. But he was sorry, ran after him and gave the man a gift. He determined never to refuse anything asked of him in God's name.

FRANCIS ALONE WITH NATURE

AS FRANCIS grew older, he gathered around him many friends because he was rich and liked to have a good time. These young men spent their time eating and drinking till all hours.

He became a partner in his father's business and spent all his earnings for pleasure. But one day he became ill and had time to think.

When he regained his strength he took walks in the country, for he liked mountains, fields, and trees. He experienced sadness—but through this sadness God would draw him to Himself.

