

francis of assisi a new biography

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Explore the profound legacy of Saint Francis of Assisi with this compelling new biography. Delving into his spiritual journey, founding of the Franciscan Order, and lasting impact, this book offers fresh insights into one of history's most revered figures.

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Francis of Assisi

Among the most beloved saints in the Catholic tradition, Francis of Assisi (c. 1181-1226) is popularly remembered for his dedication to poverty, his love of animals and nature, and his desire to follow perfectly the teachings and example of Christ. During his lifetime and after his death, followers collected, for their own purposes, numerous stories, anecdotes, and reports about Francis. As a result, the man himself and his own concerns became lost in legend. In this authoritative and engaging new biography, Augustine Thompson, O.P., sifts through the surviving evidence for the life of Francis using modern historical methods. The result is a complex yet sympathetic portrait of the man and the saint. Francis emerges from this account as very much a typical thirteenth-century Italian layman, but one who, when faced with unexpected crises in his personal life, made decisions so radical that they challenge his own society-and ours. Unlike the saint of legend, this Francis never had a unique divine inspiration to provide him with rules for following the teachings of Jesus. Rather, he spent his life reacting to unexpected challenges, before which he often found himself unprepared and uncertain. The Francis who emerges here is both more complex and more conflicted than that of older biographies. His famed devotion to poverty is found to be more nuanced than expected, perhaps not even his principal spiritual concern. Thompson revisits events small and large in Francis's life, including his troubled relations with his father, his contacts with Clare of Assisi, his encounter with the Muslim sultan, and his receiving the Stigmata, to uncover the man behind the legends and popular images. A tour de force of historical research and biographical writing, *Francis of Assisi: A New Biography* is divided into two complementary parts-a stand alone biographical narrative and a close, annotated examination of the historical sources about Francis. Taken together, the narrative and the survey of the sources provide a much-needed fresh perspective on this iconic figure. "As I have worked on this biography," Thompson writes, "my respect for Francis and his vision has increased, and I hope that this book will speak to modern people, believers and unbelievers alike, and that the Francis I have come to know will have something to say to them today."

Francis of Assisi

This elegant and accessible biography of one of Catholicism's most beloved saints was originally published as Part 1 of *Francis of Assisi: A New Biography* by Augustine Thompson, O.P. It stands

alone as a richly informed portrait of a man whose complex faith and commitment continue to inspire today. An introduction by Thompson places his biography in the context of continuing discussions about Francis's legacy, particularly the new Pope's decision to adopt the saint's name.

Francis of Assisi

A compelling biography of Francis for readers of any faith and none. A paperback version of this bestseller.

Saint Francis of Assisi

He has inspired countless films, paintings, poems and novels. But who was Francesco Bernadone, now known as Saint Francis of Assisi? Despite the wealth of writing on the life of this great saint, many still don't know the man. They know the legend: a Francis made palatable to modern sensibilities—the happy friar who carols to the birds and writes poems to the sun and moon. This is the image of the saint that is usually presented, even though it fails to encompass the true personality of Francis. Ivan Gobry, Ph.D., takes on the task of revealing the real man, the man who abandoned wealth and chose to live a beggar's life. Saint Francis lived a life that was full of danger and adventure, ministering to lepers and even traveling to Egypt in an attempt to convert the Muslims. Disciples flocked to him, drawn by the radical challenge of living the Gospel in a world that had become attracted to decadence. Francis rejoiced in nature and animals, but also fought spiritual battles against temptation and vice. Dr. Gobry restores a profoundly human dimension to the Little Poor Man of Assisi: a far cry from the image that has become conventional.

Francis of Assisi - The Saint: Early Documents, vol. 1

Noted Franciscan scholars Regis J. Armstrong, J. A. Wayne Hellmann, and William Short spearheaded a collaborative effort of translators, scholars and technicians to publish this series. Many of these texts had been published in critical, scholarly European editions, but were not available in English. In some instances these texts are available in English for the first time; in all instances, they have been annotated in light of recent scholarship. This first volume, *The Saint*, contains the following works: *The Writings of Francis of Assisi (1205/06-1226)* *The Life of Saint Francis by Thomas of Celano (1228-1229)* *The Liturgical Texts (1230-1234)* *The Life of Saint Francis by Julian of Speyer* *The Versified Life of Saint Francis by Henri d'Avranches (1232-1235)* *The Sacred Exchange between Saint Francis and Lady Poverty (1237-1239)* *Related Documents (1215-1237)*

The Writings of Saint Francis of Assisi

Saint Francis is considered the first Italian poet by some literary critics. He believed commoners should be able to pray to God in their own language, and he often wrote in the dialect of Umbria instead of Latin. Francis' writing fully reflects his personality and spirituality, making them at once formidably mystic and exquisitely human. They combine great elevation of thought with much picturesqueness of expression. Through his prayers, correspondence and regulas readers will connect and unite with one of the most beloved saints of the Catholic Church.

Francis of Assisi

A biography of the saint as both mystic and man: "The single best book about Francis now available in English" (Commonweal). In this towering work, Andre Vauchez draws on the vast body of scholarship on Francis of Assisi, particularly the important research of recent decades, to create a complete and engaging portrait of the saint. He also explores how the memory of Francis was shaped by contemporaries who recollected him in their writings, and completes the book by setting "il Poverello" in the context of his time, bringing to light what was new, surprising, and even astonishing in the life and vision of this man. The first part of the book is a fascinating reconstruction of Francis's life and work. The second and third parts deal with the texts—hagiographies, chronicles, sermons, personal testimonies, etc.—of writers who recorded aspects of Francis's life and movement as they remembered them, and used those remembrances to construct a portrait of Francis relevant to their concerns. Finally, Vauchez explores those aspects of Francis's life, personality, and spiritual vision that were unique to him, including his experience of God, his approach to nature, his understanding and use of Scripture, and his impact on culture as well as culture's impact on him. "Considered one of the great spiritual leaders of humankind, Francis of Assisi was also a man of many faces and personas:

ascetic, the founder of a religious order, a romantic hero, a mystic, a defender of the poor, a promoter of peace. But as Vauchez emphasizes—and this biography constantly reminds us—Francis was also a flesh-and-blood human being . . . A bracing, erudite account of a mystic's life.” —Booklist

Francis of Assisi

Francis of Assisi (1182-1226) was the least dogmatic of saints, seeing himself as God's troubadour or fool. His life was rich in its succession of dramas. After his debauchery as a young playboy, merchant and soldier - he fought at the Battle of Collestrada - he stripped naked in court, abandoned everything he owned and devoted his life to the poorest and the sick. On his missions he walked over the Pyrenees barefoot, was shipwrecked, and crossed the lines during the Fifth Crusade to parley with the Sultan in Egypt. In 1224, marks similar to Christ's wounds appeared on his hands, feet and side, the first recorded case of stigmata.

Saint Francis of Assisi

Presents information related to Saint Francis of Assisi (1181 or 1182-1226), an Italian friar and the founder of the Franciscan order. Notes that Saint Francis is the patron saint of animals and ecology and that his feast day is October 4th. Contains several stories about Saint Francis and the animals recorded by Thomas of Celano during the 13th century. Discusses the yearly blessing of the animals that takes place during the feast day at various Franciscan churches, as well as the text to blessings for healthy and sick animals. Includes articles about Saint Francis that originally were published in the "Saint Anthony Messenger." Offers access to audio and video clips of prayers, Holy places, and depictions of Saint Francis. Links to the home page of Saint Anthony Messenger Press and Franciscan Communications.

Life of St. Francis of Assisi

Francis of Assisi is, after Mary of Nazareth, the greatest saint in the Christian calendar, and one of the most influential men in the whole of human history. By universal acclaim, this biography by G. K. Chesterton is considered the best appreciation of Francis's life--the one that gets to the heart of the matter. For Chesterton, Francis is a great paradoxical figure, a man who loved women but vowed himself to chastity; an artist who loved the pleasures of the natural world as few have loved them, but vowed himself to the most austere poverty, stripping himself naked in the public square so all could see that he had renounced his worldly goods; a clown who stood on his head in order to see the world aright. Chesterton gives us Francis in his world--the riotously colorful world of the High Middle Ages, a world with more pageantry and romance than we have seen before or since. Here is the Francis who tried to end the Crusades by talking to the Saracens, and who interceded with the emperor on behalf of the birds. Here is the Francis who inspired a revolution in art that began with Giotto and a revolution in poetry that began with Dante. Here is the Francis who prayed and danced with pagan abandon, who talked to animals, who invented the creche.

Francis of Assisi

Acclaimed biographer Donald Spoto strips away the legends from the life of Francis of Assisi to reveal the true story of a man who has too often been obscured by pious iconography. Drawing on unprecedented access to unexplored archives, plus Francis's own letters, Spoto places Francis within the context of the multifaceted ecclesiastical, political, and social forces of medieval Italy, casting new light on Francis and showing how his emphasis on charity as the heart of the Gospel's message helped him pioneer a new social movement. This nuanced portrait reveals the multifaceted character of a man who can genuinely be said to have changed the course of history.

Saint Francis of Assisi Illustrated

A new biography that reveals the saint as his best friends knew him to be. Chiara Mercuri argues that the familiar Francis of the catechism and popular anecdote does not begin to take into account the complexity of the real person, because Bonaventure of Bagnoregio, a successor of Francis, essentially created "another" Francis. It was Bonaventure, a man who never knew Francis personally, who came to define the great saint. In the mid-1300s, every one of the approximately fifteen hundred Franciscan friaries and about four hundred Claretian convents possessed a copy of the Life of St. Francis by Bonaventure. Today there are some 400 of these writings remaining from the 1200s and 1300s. That

is an enormous number that confirms the determination with which Bonaventure pursued his decision to affirm a new image of Francis. Why was he so determined to recreate the life of the saint who gave his name to the largest spiritual movement that Christendom had ever seen? The effect was to wipe out any trace of the testimony of Francis's closest companions, and to impose a new, ethereal, almost disembodied image of the follower of Christ. Mercuri takes the reader back in time to the real Francis of Assisi, revealing with wisdom and clear scholarship the complexities of the social, family, religious, and economic dynamic of the Middle Ages, and the concentric circles of those who knew and wrote about St. Francis from firsthand knowledge. This is a biography of the world's most popular saint – for everyone!

Reluctant Saint

Tells the story of the man who became one of the most famous saints in the world, from his fun-loving youth through his career as a soldier to the years he spent serving God.

Francis of Assisi

Francis (c. 1182-1226) and Clare (c. 1193-1254) together shaped the spirituality of early 13th-century Europe. Here for the first time in English are their complete writings, brought together in one volume.

Saint Francis of Assisi

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Francis and Clare

St. Francis's call is a call to return to the basics of Christianity. It is a call to Christians to reach back to their roots so that their spiritual lives can draw strength from the pure waters of the Gospel instead of being choked by manmade traditions and worldly concerns. In the words of G. K. Chesterton, the coming of Francis “marked the moment when men could be reconciled not only to God but to nature and, most difficult of all, to themselves. ... his whole function [was] to tell men to start afresh and, in that sense, to tell them to forget” (124). While St. Francis of Assisi is one of the most beloved saints in history, the relevancy of St. Francis for our times in light of the election of Pope Francis has yet to be explored. This book is written with the intention of filling that gap. While it is biographical in nature, it also freely explores themes that relate to St. Francis but are not a part of his life. This book is about more than the life of St. Francis of Assisi; it is about the impact this beloved saint has had through his imitation of Christ, his love of poverty, the Franciscan movement, and his profound influence on Pope Francis.

Saint Francis of Assisi: A Biography

The grace of God our Saviour hath in these latter days appeared in His servant Francis unto all such as be truly humble, and lovers of holy Poverty, who, adoring the overflowing mercy of God seen in him, are taught by his ensample to utterly deny ungodliness and worldly lusts and to live after the manner of Christ, thirsting with unwearied desire for the blessed hope. For God Most High regarded him, as one that truly was poor and of a contrite spirit, with so great condescension of His favour as that not only did He raise him up in his need from the dust of his worldly way of life, but also made him a true professor, leader, and herald of Gospel perfection. Aeterna Press

Saint Francis of Assisi

A definitive biography of St. Francis which can scarcely be surpassed.

The Life of Saint Francis

This warm, richly detailed biography brings the beloved saint alive in all his human and profoundly spiritual dimensions.

Saint Francis of Assisi

"Francis: The Journey and the Dream depicted a Francis who 'sang' to me. I felt that I had found a teacher to lead me home. I had no idea where this was going to lead, but I was ready to follow."--John Michael Talbot One of the most influential saints' books, with over 200,000 copies sold, Francis: The Journey and the Dream continues to inspire people of all ages with its lyrical prose and depth of love for the Poor Man of Assisi. This beautiful anniversary edition includes Fr. Bodo's story of writing the book and its worldwide influence, a reader's guide for book clubs and discussion groups, and a list of Fr. Bodo's favorite Franciscan resources, culled over three decades of research on Francis and his followers. The audio edition of this book can be downloaded via Audible.

God's Fool

The Prophet is the third volume in this extraordinary series of "the writings of Saint Francis and those of the early Franciscan witnesses" and it will "be of estimable value to scholars, students, and lovers of Il Poverello as well...a scholarly achievement done in the service of history, theology and spirituality." (Lawrence Cunningham)

Francis

This collection includes the saint's writings and early sources documenting his life and societal impact, including: Complete writings of St. Francis First and Second Lives by Thomas of Celano Longer and Shorter Lives by St. Bonaventure Legend of the Three Companions Legend of Perugia Mirror of Perfection Little Flowers of Saint Francis Sacrum Commercium Shorter Contemporary Testimonies This two-volume, paperback set is not sold separately.

Francis of Assisi - The Prophet: Early Documents, vol. 3

Saint Francis of Assisi is one of the most beloved and well-known saints in the Catholic church. In this biography, G. K. Chesterton relays the unique and inspirational life of the humble saint. Starting life as a wealthy young man full of life and spirit, Francis soon joined the war between Assisi and Perugia and returned, ill and downtrodden. He ended up joining the papal forces and after witnessing a poor man begging for alms his spirit was renewed and he was inspired to start a new life of humble poverty. Though not yet officially part of the Catholic papacy, Francis soon amassed a following in Assisi and traveled to Rome to get approval from Pope Innocent III to form what is known today as the Franciscan Order. The Order devotes themselves to living in poverty yet giving generously to the needy. Today, Saint Francis is the patron saint of animals and ecology, having showed his love for all of God's creation early in his life. This new edition of the biography of Saint Francis will be an inspiration for all readers, secular and religious alike.

St. Francis of Assisi

In this new biography of St. Francis, Cunningham follows the saint's life in chronological order, placing him within his culture, exploring official developments within the Catholic Church, and highlighting the many conversions of Francis as his life played out.

Saint Francis of Assisi

There are many editions of the writings of St. Francis, and biographies about him, but here in one volume are both, plus the complete text of the late medieval work, The Little Flowers, which did more to establish the legend of the man than any other work. This "Paraclete Giants" edition includes the complete Road to Assisi, Paul Sabatier's ground-breaking and foundational biography of the saint, first published in French in 1894 and re-issued and expanded in 2002; the complete Francis in His Own

Words: The Essential Writings; and The Little Flowers, thus offering the best introduction to St. Francis yet available between two covers. Other Paraclete Giants include The Complete Julian of Norwich and The Complete Introduction to the Devout Life, both translated and introduced by Fr. John-Julian, OJN.

Francis of Assisi

St. Francis of Assisi is one of the best-known and best-loved of all the saints. This classic work puts the him in the context of his historical setting and his spiritual influences. Inspired by a deep and simple love, Francis abandoned his fortune and chose to live simply. His love for Jesus Christ, his love for animals, and his love for nature continue to inspire many to this day. This version has been redesigned for a modern audience who wish to continue to connect to this simple man of Assisi.

The Complete Francis of Assisi

Looks at the life of Francis of Assisi and explores how his heritage influenced the apostolic activities of his followers.

St. Francis of Assisi

Describes in gripping detail St. Francis' historic efforts to convert the Sultan of Egypt to the Catholic faith. Discusses St. Francis' approach to ecumenism and the conversion of other religions to Catholicism. Also includes a comprehensive biography of St. Francis and his dynamic reform of the Church.

The Cambridge Companion to Francis of Assisi

Francis of Assisi is one of the world's most popular and charismatic religious figures in the history of christendom, and also one of the most misrepresented. Such is the assertion of Mark Galli, who here attempts to strip away the modern gloss in order to discover the real man and the world in which he lived.

St. Francis of Assisi and the Conversion of the Muslims

When the adolescent Lady Clare agreed to secretly meet Francis Bernadone, the eccentric merchant's son who had become a wandering preacher, she was desperate to avoid the marriage that her parents were arranging for her. Francis, having gathered more than a dozen male followers, believed Clare to be the one to lead the female half of his movement, a movement that was loyal to the church but inspired by heretical sects where women played a prominent part. He promised a future in which she would preach and serve the lepers of Assisi. Clare and her kinswoman escaped their family under cover of night and began to live the life that Francis had envisioned. They continued until one particular cardinal, a future pope, took notice. 'Francis and Clare: The Struggles of the Saints of Assisi' reveals that Francis's neglect of Clare in the face of church opposition was his greatest shame. Clare, fighting to avoid being locked into a cloister, used the fame she derived from their association as her only cudgel in her decades-long battle with the papacy for control of her community. Set largely in thirteenth century Rome and Assisi, Francis and Clare: The Struggles of the Saints of Assisi is the story of individual genius versus societal controls. Replete with holy, wily, and sometimes comical characters, it is set against the emergence of the flawed, bureaucratic Roman Catholic Church that is coming into ever-clearer focus today. In this day when many feel betrayed by their religion, Francis and Clare: The Struggles of the Saints of Assisi offers new reasons to admire them both. It shows that while Francis did not reform the church, he transformed lives by extolling the glory of God. Clare was not passive. Her strength of character and her resistance can encourage others to persevere despite overwhelming odds. Kathleen Brady's double portrait reveals that the story of one cannot be truly told without the other. In it readers will find new reasons to admire the saints of Assisi and new justification to find their story poignant and inspiring.

Francis of Assisi and His World

"Francis of Assisi is, after Mary of Nazareth, the greatest saint in the Christian calendar, and one of the most influential men in the whole of human history. By universal acclaim, this biography by G. K. Chesterton is considered the best appreciation of Francis's life--the one that gets to the heart of the matter. For Chesterton, Francis is a great paradoxical figure, a man who loved women but vowed himself to chastity; an artist who loved the pleasures of the natural world as few have loved them, but vowed himself to the most austere poverty, stripping himself naked in the public square so all could see that

he had renounced his worldly goods; a clown who stood on his head in order to see the world aright. Chesterton gives us Francis in his world—the riotously colorful world of the High Middle Ages, a world with more pageantry and romance than we have seen before or since. Here is the Francis who tried to end the Crusades by talking to the Saracens, and who interceded with the emperor on behalf of the birds. Here is the Francis who inspired a revolution in art that began with Giotto and a revolution in poetry that began with Dante. Here is the Francis who prayed and danced with pagan abandon, who talked to animals, who invented the creche."

Francis and Clare

On the Road with Francis of Assisi offers a unique and lively travelogue of parallel journeys: that of Francis of Assisi on his way to sainthood in the thirteenth century, and that of author Linda Bird Francke, who followed his path through the beauty of central and coastal Italy—and even on to Egypt. Francke tells the compelling story of Saint Francis through the many places he visited. She and her husband, Harvey Loomis, used as their guidebooks medieval texts, including the first official biography of the saint, completed in 1229, just three years after he died. Theirs was not a spiritual journey but one based on admiration for a man whose legend continues to inspire and fascinate millions around the world. From Assisi—a small Umbrian town that now draws two million visitors a year, making it second only to Rome as an Italian pilgrimage destination—Saint Francis crisscrossed Italy for twenty years. And so too does the author travel through the “green heart” of Italy to such hill towns and cities as Siena, Bologna, Venice, Gubbio, and Rome, and to the many mountaintop Franciscan sanctuaries from La Verna and Le Celle di Cortona in Tuscany to the Rieti Valley. Along the way, Francke movingly depicts the many miracles Francis performed and draws us into the splendid beauty of the landscape that inspired the saint’s love for nature and regard for all living things. Unlike Francis, however, whose asceticism caused him to add ashes to his food to deaden its earthly pleasure, Francke and her husband indulge in the fabled Umbrian cuisine, from wild boar to the region’s famed black truffles, and the incomparable local wines. *On the Road with Francis of Assisi* embraces the spirit and person of its legendary subject, and invites the reader to marvel at his spiritual intensity and follow in his footsteps through the timeless beauty of Italy.

Saint Francis of Assisi Illustrated

This three-volume project produces a translation of the extant texts of the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries that present the life and writings of Francis of Assisi. It 1) provides a new and more complete publication of the early Franciscan critical texts that offer fresh translations in light of the scholarship of the past three decades; 2) provides a more manageable and accessible edition of the Franciscan texts in several volumes; 3) presents scholarly introductions, critical apparatus, and annotations to give readers biblical, historical, sociological, hagiographical, spiritual and pastoral perspectives; 4) situates the Franciscan texts within the Christian tradition and context of their day. The texts chosen represent the most important sources for studying the life and vision of Francis. The Saint includes *The Writings by Francis*, *The Life of Francis by Thomas of Celano*, *The Liturgical Texts*, *The Life of Francis by Julian of Speyer*, *The Versified Life of Francis by Henri D’Avranches*, *The Sacred Exchange between Saint Francis and Lady Poverty and Related Documents*. Also included is a general introduction to the series by Regis Armstrong, helpful introductions to each section, colored maps, extensive annotation.

On the Road with Francis of Assisi

The captivating story of the world’s favorite saint is now retold for a modern audience by one of the great novelists of our time. Perhaps more than any other figure in Christian history since Jesus Christ, Saint Francis of Assisi has captured our imagination, for his is a story of extreme self-sacrifice, of love to God and man. How could this wealthy, handsome youth cast away all the advantages that were his by birth and choose instead a career of poverty and humility? How could he attract members of all strata of society to his mission? And how, when his order became established throughout Europe, could he renounce great personal power and humbly continue his life’s work? Here is Francis, from his twelfth-century boyhood to his life as a missionary roaming the very boundaries of the known world. Here too are the men and women who followed him—Bernard de Quintavalle, the rich businessman; Peter Cathanii, the lawyer; Brother Giles, the farmer’s son; Lady Clare; and so many others—all drawn together by the personal magnetism and humble faith of their leader, all re-created by bestselling novelist Elizabeth Goudge against a rich medieval canvas.

Francis of Assisi: The saint

Chesterton was an orthodox religious person, eventually converting to Roman Catholicism. In 1923, he wrote this short biography of St. Francis of Assisi, after whom Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio chose his papal name, Pope Francis, when he was elected as the 266th and current Pope of the Catholic Church, on 13 March 2013. The biography of St. Francis may help one understand why the Pope chose St. Francis as his namesake. Chesterton begins: "A sketch of St. Francis of Assisi in modern English may be written in one of three ways. Between these the writer must make his selection; ... First, he may deal with this great and most amazing man as a figure in secular history and a model of social virtues. ... Second, he may go to the opposite extreme, and decide, as it were, to be defiantly devotional. ... Third, he may try to do what I have tried to do here; ... I am here addressing the ordinary common man, sympathetic but sceptical, and I can only rather hazily hope that, by approaching the great saint's story through what is evidently picturesque and popular about it, I may at least leave the reader understanding a little more than he did before of the consistency of a complete character;" "Here is an historical character which is admittedly attractive to many of us already, by its gaiety, its romantic imagination, its spiritual courtesy and camaraderie, but which also contains elements (evidently equally sincere and emphatic) which seem to you quite remote and repulsive. But after all, this man was a man and not half a dozen men. What seems inconsistency to you did not seem inconsistency to him. Let us see whether we can understand, with the help of the existing understanding, these other things that now seem to be doubly dark, by their intrinsic gloom and their ironic contrast."

My God and My All

When religion is considered, the subjects are usually saints, heretics, theologians, and religious leaders, thereby ignoring the vast majority of those who lived in the communes. Drawing on many ecclesiastical and secular sources, this book aims to give a voice to the majority - orthodox lay people and those who ministered to them.

St. Francis of Assisi

The first book to present the environmental teachings of this beloved pope—the newly canonized St. John Paul—and the hopeful words of Pope Francis, thoughtfully synthesized into a complete spiritual and practical vision for the future. "The ecological crisis is a moral crisis." So said Pope John Paul II, an unexpected and fierce advocate for ecological responsibility throughout his papacy. Rather than seeing environmental concerns as "earthly" or "political," he showed that they are in fact at the heart of the covenant between human beings and their Creator. In dozens of addresses, sermons, and encyclicals, Pope John Paul II made specific recommendations on twelve interconnected ecological issues, including climate change, ocean destruction, water scarcity, poverty, the role of women, and war. He showed that each could become a source of spiritual, social, and economic transformation. Following St. Francis integrates Pope John Paul II's vision with that of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of ecology, and the galvanizing words of Pope Francis. Accessible and illuminating, it speaks to hearts and minds, to nonreligious readers as well as devoted Catholics, incorporating Scripture, current science, and inspiring stories of solutions and restoration. Marybeth Lorbiecki unifies and champions the late, beloved pope's view that all life issues are related and that all forms of life deserve care. And if we work with God and each other to protect them, we can "renew the face of the earth" (Psalm 104:30). From the Hardcover edition.

St. Francis of Assisi

Cities of God