

Introductory Rite

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL: And with your spirit.

Lord Jesus, Our Redeemer,
you willingly gave yourself up to death
that all people might be saved and pass from death into life.

Listen to our prayers; look with love on your people
who mourn and pray for their dead brothers and sisters.

Lord Jesus, you alone are holy and compassionate:
forgive them their sins.

By dying you opened the gates of life
for those who believe in you.

In life they followed the gospel call
within the fraternity of your servant Francis.

By your glorious power give them light, joy, and peace in heaven
where you live for ever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

Reading: *Celano, Life II – Francis exhorts his brothers*

“Francis accepted death singing. When he was approaching his last days, and the eternal light was taking the place of the temporal light that was being withdrawn, he showed by an example of virtue that he had nothing in common with the world. For, worn down by his serious illness that was being brought to an end with every suffering, he had himself placed naked on the ground. And he said to his brothers: ‘I have done what was mine to do.’ Then with all the brothers sitting about, he extended his right hand over them and beginning with his vicar, he placed it upon the head of each one. ‘Farewell’, he said, ‘All you my sons, in the fear of the Lord, and may you remain in him always. I am hastening to the Lord, to whose grace I commend you all.’ And he blessed in those who were present also all his brothers and sisters in the world and all who would come after them unto the end of the world.”

RESPONSORIAL: Praised be you my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death; no living person can escape her.

Most High, all-powerful, all-good Lord,
All praise is Yours, all glory, honor and blessings.
To you alone, Most High, do they belong;
no mortal lips are worthy to pronounce Your Name. **R:**

We praise You, Lord, for all Your creatures,
especially for Brother Sun,
who is the day through whom You give us light.
And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor,
of You Most High, he bears your likeness. **R:**

We praise You, Lord, for Sister Moon and the stars,
in the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair. **R:**

We praise You, Lord, for Brothers Wind and Air,
fair and stormy, all weather's moods,
by which You cherish all that You have made. **R:**

We praise You, Lord, for Sister Water,
so useful, humble, precious and pure. **R:**

We praise You, Lord, for Brother Fire,
through whom You light the night.
He is beautiful, playful, robust, and strong. **R:**

We praise You, Lord, for Sister Earth, who sustains us
with her fruits, colored flowers, and herbs. **R:**

We praise You, Lord, for those who pardon, and
for love of You bear sickness and trial. **R:**

Blessed are those who endure in peace,
by You Most High, they will be crowned. **R:**

We praise You, Lord, for Sister Death, from whom no-one living can escape. Woe to those who die in their sins! Blessed are those that She finds doing Your will. Death can do them no harm.

R: Praised be you my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death; no living person can escape her.

We praise and bless You, Lord, and give You thanks, and serve You in all humility. **R:**

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN (JN6:37-40)

Intercessions

Let us pray for our brothers and sisters to Jesus Christ our Lord, who said, "I am the resurrection, I am the life; to believe in me means life, in spite of death, and all who believe in me shall never die." We beg you... **R: Lord have mercy.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you raised the dead to life. Give eternal life to our brothers and sisters. We beg you... **R:**

Our brothers and sisters were joined with us in the Franciscan life. Grant them all that was promised by our Father Francis. We beg you... **R:**

The Blessing of Saint Francis of Assisi

Before we take leave of remembering of our brothers and sisters, let us bless them on their way to the Father.

Presider places the Rule with the candles of the deceased.

All those present extend their right hands in blessing...

**May the Lord bless you and keep you,
May the Lord let His face shine upon you,
and have mercy upon you.
May the Lord look upon you with kindness
and give you his peace.
May the Lord bless you. AMEN.**



FRANCISCAN WAKE SERVICE



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF JOHN

Everything that the Father gives me
will come to me,
and I will not reject anyone who comes to me,
because I came down from heaven
not to do my own will
but the will of the one who sent me.

And this is the will of the one who sent me,
that I should not lose anything of what he gave me,
but that I should raise it [on] the last day.

For this is the will of my Father,
that everyone who sees the Son
and believes in him
may have eternal life,
and I shall raise [them on] the last day.”

THE WORD OF THE LORD...

6:37-40