

St. Francis of Assisi



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Pope Francis chose his name in reference to St. Francis of Assisi, whom he referred to as, "the man of poverty, the man of peace, the man who loves and protects creation." St. Francis of Assisi is the patron saint of animals and the environment. He lived at the turn of the 13th century. He was the son of a wealthy merchant and he gave his fortune away to the less fortunate.