

FRANCISCAN PRAYERS AND PRAISES

1. Almighty, eternal, just and merciful God,
grant us in our misery and grace,
to do for you alone
what we know you want us to do,
and always
to desire what pleases you.
Thus,
inwardly cleansed,
interiorly enlightened,
inflamed by the fire of the Holy Spirit,
may we be able to follow
in the footprints of your beloved Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ.
And,
by your grace alone,
may we make our way to you,

Most High,
Who live and rule
in perfect Trinity and simple Unity,
and are glorified,
God all-powerful,
forever and ever.
Amen.

From the Letter to the Entire Order; written probably near the end of his life.

2. Let us love God
and adore him
with a pure heart
and a pure mind,
because he who seeks
this above all else
has said:

The true worshippers will adore the Father
in spirit and in truth.
For all those who worship him
are to worship him
in the spirit of truth.

And let us praise him
and pray to him
day and night,
saying:

Our Father who art in heaven.

Since we should pray always
and never lose heart.

From the Letter to the Faithful, second version.

3. Most high;
glorious God,
enlighten the darkness
of my heart
and give me, Lord,
a correct faith,
a certain hope,
a perfect charity,
sense and knowledge,
so that I may carry out
your holy and true command.

The Prayer before the Crucifix, said to date from the time when
Francis, praying in the ruined church of San Damiano, heard the voice of the
Lord telling him to “Go and repair my house’.

4. Let us all love the Lord God
with all our heart, all our soul,
with all our mind and all our strength,
and with fortitude
and with total understanding,
with all our powers,
with every effort,
every emotion,
every desire
and every wish.

He has given
and gives to each of us
our whole body,
our whole soul
and our whole life.
He created us
and redeemed us,
and will save us
by his mercy alone.
He did and does
every good thing for us,
who are miserable and wretched,
ungrateful and evil.

Therefore
let us desire nothing else

let us wish for nothing else
let nothing else please us
and cause us delight.

5. PRAISES OF THE VIRTUES

Hail, Queen Wisdom!
The Lord save you, with your sister,
pure, holy Simplicity.
Lady holy Poverty, God keep you,
with your sister, holy Humility.
Lady holy Love, God keep you,
with your sister, holy Obedience.
All holy virtues, God keep you,
God, from whom you proceed and come.
In all the world, there is not a man
who can possess any one of you
without first dying to himself.
The man who practises one and does not offend
against the others possesses all;
The man who offends against one,
possesses none and violates all.

Each and every one of you puts vice and sin to shame.
Holy Wisdom puts Satan and all his wiles to shame.
Pure and holy Simplicity
puts all the learning of this world,
all natural wisdom, to shame.
Holy Poverty puts to shame all greed, avarice,
and all the anxieties of this life.
Holy Humility puts pride to shame,
and all the inhabitants of this world
and all that is in the world.
Holy Love puts to shame all the temptations
of the devil and the flesh and all natural fear.
Holy Obedience puts to shame
all natural and selfish desires.
It mortifies our lower nature
and makes it obey the Spirit and our fellow men.
Obedience subjects a man to everyone on earth,
and not only to men,
but to all the beasts as well and to the wild animals,
So that they can do what they like with him,
as far as God allows them.

(St Francis)

6. THE PARAPHRASE OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father: Most Holy, our Creator and Redeemer, our Saviour and
our Comforter.

In heaven; the angels and the saints. You give them light so that they may have knowledge, because you, Lord, are light. You inflame them so that they may love, because you, Lord, are love. You live continually in them so that they may be happy, because you, Lord, are the supreme good, the eternal good, and it is from you all good comes, and without you there is no good.

Hallowed be your name ; May our knowledge of you become ever clearer, so that we may realize the breadth of your blessing, and extent of your promises, the height of your majesty and the depth of your judgements.

Your kingdom come; So that you may reign in us by your grace and bring us to your kingdom, where we shall see you clearly, love you perfectly, be happy in your company and enjoy you for ever.

Your will be done on earth as in heaven; That we may love you with our whole heart by always thinking of you; with our whole mind by directing our whole intention towards you and seeking your glory in everything; and with all our strength by spending all our energies and affections of soul and body in the service of your love alone. And may we love our neighbour as ourselves, encouraging them all to love you as best we can, rejoicing at the good fortune of others, just as if it were our own, and sympathizing with their misfortunes, while giving offence to no one.

Give us today our daily bread; Your own beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to remind us of the love he showed for us and to help us to understand and appreciate it and everything that he did or said or suffered.

And forgive us our sins; In your infinite mercy, and by the power of the passion of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, together with the merits and the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints.

As we forgive those who sin against us; And if we do not forgive perfectly, Lord, make us forgive perfectly, so that we may really love our enemies for love of you, and pray fervently to you for them, returning no one evil for evil, anxious only to serve everybody in you.

Lead us not into temptation; Hidden or obvious, sudden or unforeseen.

But deliver us from evil; Present, past or future. **Amen..**

(St Francis)

7. THE ANTIPHON FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PASSION

Holy Virgin Mary,
among all the women of the world

there is none like you;
You are the daughter and handmaid
of the most high King and Father of heaven;
you are the mother of our most holy Lord Jesus Christ;
You are the spouse of the Holy Spirit.

Pray for us,
with St Michael the archangel
and all the powers of heaven
and all the saints,
to your most holy and beloved Son,
our Lord and Master. Amen.

8. All powerful, all holy,
most high and supreme God,
Sovereign good, all good, every good
you who alone are good,
it is to you we must give all praise
all glory, all thanks, all honour, all blessing
to you we must refer all good always. Amen.

9. Let us refer all good
to the most high and supreme Lord God,
And to acknowledge that every good is his,
and thank him for everything,
he from whom all good things come.
And may he,
the Highest and Supreme,
who alone is true God,
have and be given and receive
every honour and reverence,
every praise and blessing,
every thanks and glory
for every good is his,
he who alone is good.

From the 1221 Rule of the Friars Minor.

10. Let every creature
in heaven, on earth,
in the sea and in the depths,
give praise,
glory, honour and blessing
to him
who suffered so much for us,
who has given so many good things,
and who will continue to do so for the future.
For he is our power and strength,
he who alone is good,
who is most high,
who is all-powerful, admirable and glorious;
who alone is holy, praiseworthy, and blessed

throughout endless ages. Amen.

From the Letter to Faithful Christians (second version): “To all Christian religious, clergy and laity, men and women, and to all who live in the whole world’.

11 One day Francis’s eye-disease had to be treated by a surgeon with the cautery. To the fire heating the cauterising iron, he said:

My Brother Fire,
outdoing all created things in splendour,
the Most High created you
mighty, fair and useful.
Be kind to me at this hour,
be courteous,
for I have long loved you in the Lord.
I pray the great Lord
who created you
to temper your heat now
so that, burning me gently,
I may be able to bear it.

12. When his illness got worse

I thank you, Lord God,
for all my pains;
if it pleases you, Lord,
increase them a hundredfold.
I shall thankfully accept
whatever sorrow you give,
not sparing me;
for in the fulfilment of your will
I find my greatest solace.

Lord Jesus Christ,
you are the good shepherd.
You grant us
your loving mercy
without our having deserved it,
and many a time it must endure
the pangs of sharp pain.
Since you have called me to your flock,
I beg you by your grace and strength
that in trouble, anguish and distress
I may never turn away from you.

Lord,
look down on me in my infirmities
and help me to bear them patiently.

I will rejoice
at my tribulations and infirmities
and be strong in the Lord,
at all times giving thanks to God the Father
and to his only Son
our Lord Jesus Christ
and to the Holy Spirit,
for the great grace he has given me
in deigning to assure me,
his unworthy servant,
while I am still alive,
that his kingdom will be mine.

13. The day before Francis was imprinted with the marks of Christ's
passion, he turned towards the sun and prayed:

My Lord Jesus Christ,
two graces I beg of you
before I die:
the first is that in my lifetime
I may feel, in my soul and in my body,
as far as possible,
that sorrow which you, sweet Jesus,
endured in the hour
of your most bitter passion;
the second is that I may feel in my heart,
as far as possible,
that abundance of love with which you,
Son of God,
were inflamed, so as willingly to endure
so great a passion for us sinners.

14. In response to God's love:

May the burning and tender might
of your love,
I beseech you, O Lord,
ravish my soul
from all earthly things:
so that I may die
for love of your love,
as you deigned to die
for love of my love.

15. My Lord,
I am yours.
You know
I have nothing
besides my tunic, cord and underpants.
And even these three things are yours.

So what can I give you?

16. Who are you,
Lord of infinite goodness, wisdom and power,
who deign to visit me,
a vile and abominable worm?
My Lord Jesus Christ,
I thank you for the great love and charity
you show me.

For it is a sign of great love
when the Lord punishes his servant
for all his misdeeds in this world
rather than punish him in the next.
And I am joyfully prepared
to undergo every trial
and every adversity which you, God,
are pleased to send me
for my sins.

17. Astonished and disappointed at the hostile way distinguished and respected people reacted to his embassy of poverty, Francis spoke thus to the Lord:

Blessed are you,
Lord God,
for hiding these things
from the learned and clever
and revealing them to little children.
Yes, Father, for that is what it has pleased you to do.
Jesus, Father and Lord of my life,
deliver me from their evil counsels
and suffer me not to fall
into similar condemnation,
but grant me by your grace
to find what I am seeking,
for I am your servant
and the son of your handmaid.

18. Our Creator, Redeemer and Saviour,
you are the only true God,
in you is the fulness of goodness,
you are the true and sovereign good.
You alone are good,
loving, gentle, sweet and lovable,
holy, just, true and fair,
kind, innocent and pure.
In you is all pardon,
grace and glory
for all the repentant,
for the just,
for all who share your joy in heaven.

Let nothing separate us from you.
Everywhere, at any place,
at any hour and at any time,
daily, ceaselessly,
let us truly and humbly
believe in you,
love, honour and worship,
praise, bless and glorify you,
serve you and give thanks to you,
most high, sovereign, eternal God,
Trinity and Unity,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Creator of all things
and Saviour of all who have faith in you,
who put their hope in you
and who love you.

You are without beginning or end,
unchanging, invisible,
ineffable and inscrutable;
you are sublime and great,
mild and lovable,
the source of joy.
We desire you
above all else
forever and ever. Amen.

An act of praise from Chapter 23 of the unconfirmed Rule of 1221,
rephrased in the form of a prayer.

19. Fear God and glorify him!
You are worthy, Lord
to receive honour and praise.
Praise the Lord, all you who fear him.
Hail, Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with you.
Bless the Lord, heaven and earth,
bless him, seas and rivers;
children of God, praise the Lord!
This is the day the Lord has made,
let us rejoice and be glad.
You are the King of Israel.
Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord, for he is good;
let all who read this praise the Lord!
praise the Lord, for he is good;
Bless the Lord, all you his works,
you birds of heaven, praise the Lord!
Bless the Lord, all you children,

young men and maidens,
praise the Lord!
Worthy is the Lamb that was slain
to receive praise, honour and glory.
Blessed be the Holy Trinity
and Undivided Unity.
Holy Michael the Archangel, defend us!

Apparently Francis inscribed these invocations with his own hand on a wooden tablet. It was intended for the altar of a hermitage at Cesi di Termini in Umbria.

20. Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is discord, union;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.
Grant that we may not so much seek to be
consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

This prayer, though not by Francis himself, is much in his spirit.

21. THIRD ORDER LITANY

THANKSGIVING

For the Incarnation, Death, and Resurrection
of our Lord Jesus Christ:
We thank you O God.

For our membership in Christ's Church:
We thank you O God

For the Eucharist, in which we receive the life of the Risen Christ:
We thank you O God

For the inspiration of the life and example of St Francis:
We thank you O God

For our calling as followers of Christ in the way of St Francis:
We thank you O God

For the life shared in the Franciscan family:

We thank you O God

For the love and caring of our fellow tertiaries:

We thank you O God

For the spread of the Third Order throughout
the world:

We thank you O God

For the beautiful and life-sustaining world
in which we live:

We thank you O God

For the opportunities to serve you in our
brothers and sisters,
to share their pain and suffering
in union with Christ's Passion:

We thank you O God

PENITENCE

Our insensitivity to the needs of others:

O Lord forgive

The prejudice and fear that hinder love
in our hearts:

O Lord forgive

Our narrowness of vision and our shrinking
from your demands upon us:

O Lord forgive

Our failure to accept change and risk:

O Lord forgive

Our desire to do your work in our own way:

O Lord forgive

Our lack of respect for those who differ
from us:

O Lord forgive

Our clinging to the past and fear of the future:

O Lord forgive

Our unwillingness to embrace poverty in
relationships and with our possessions:

O Lord forgive

Our looking to this world for security:

O Lord forgive

INTERCESSION

For all tertiaries who face hostility because
of their Christian commitment:

Lord hear our prayer

For all aged, sick and housebound tertiaries:

Lord hear our prayer

For those who work without fellowship with
other tertiaries, especially expatriate
workers in the worldwide Church:

Lord hear our prayer.

For tertiaries working among the dispossessed,
the destitute, and the mentally ill:

Lord hear our prayer

For . . . , Minister General of the
Society, and for . . . , our
Minister Provincial.

Lord hear our prayer

For all members of Provincial Chapters,
For the Provincial Chapter of the European Province
For our Link Tertiaries and Provincial Officers.

Lord hear our prayer

For all Area Teams, Area Ministers, Area Formation
Guardians, Area Novice Guardians

Lord hear our prayer

For all Local Groups and Local Group Convenors.

Lord hear our prayer

For all postulants and novices of the
Third Order:

Lord hear our prayer

For our spiritual directors:

Lord hear our prayer

For the growth of understanding and fellowship
with Roman Catholic Secular Franciscans:

Lord hear our prayer

For those who doubt their Franciscan calling:

Lord hear our prayer

For those who are tempted to faithlessness
or to despair:

Lord hear our prayer

For those who lack the opportunity of
frequent Communion:

Lord hear our prayer.

22. Lord God,

your words gave Francis
freedom to become your servant.

Set us free to follow his path of poverty,
to proclaim his message of peace,
and to live his life of prayer
in the power of the Spirit;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
gives freedom through forgiveness
and new life in your love. Amen.

23. FOR ALL FRANCISCANS

O Father of the forsaken
and Lover of the unloved,
make us bearers of your presence to all mankind.

Teach us to walk in the poverty of your Son
and to be among all people as those who serve;
in the name of him who for our sakes
became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord.

24 .O God,
your love led Francis and Clare
to establish our three Orders.
Draw us into your love, that,
in its perfection,
we may grow in love towards all
with whom we have to do;
for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
who gives himself in love to all. Amen.

25 FOR THE FIRST ORDER
Grant, O heavenly Father,
that as your servant Francis carried
the love and peace of your Son
into the hearts of all who knew him,
so may those who seek to follow his example
shed abroad that same love and peace
in the minds of all and in the dark places
of the earth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

26.FOR THE SECOND ORDER
Lord God,
pour your abundant blessing
on those who after the pattern of blessed Clare
have left all to follow you
in a life of poverty, prayer and penance;
assist them with your grace,
that they may persevere
in their vocation to the end,
and that all their needs may be supplied;
through Jesus Christ our Lord . . .

27.Lord God,
who gave a clear shining light
amid the darkness of this world
in the holiness of blessed Clare,
through whom you renew your Church
with a continual increase;
grant us, we pray,
to follow in her footsteps
so that at the last, we may rejoice with her
in the clear light of your eternal glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

28 .FOR THE THIRD ORDER

Lord God,
who opened the eyes of blessed Francis
to the vocation of those you call to serve you
in the world:
grant such grace to the members of the Third Order
that being crucified with Christ
they may show forth among all
the radiance of his risen life;
who with you and the Holy Spirit
is alive and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

29. THE BLESSING FOR BROTHER LEO

To the prayers of the saints I commend you:
May our blessed Lady pray for you,
May Saint Francis pray for you,
May Saint Clare pray for you,
May all Franciscan saints pray for you.
And I shall give you the blessing which
Saint Francis gave to Brother Leo, his companion:
The Lord bless you and keep you:
The Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you:
The Lord lift up the light of his countenance
upon you and give you his peace.
My brothers and sisters, the Lord bless you. Amen.

30..God the King of all
bless you in heaven and on earth.
I bless you as I can
and more than I can.
And what I cannot,
may he who can do all things do in you.
May you find every blessing your desire
and may whatever you worthily ask
come to pass for you.

31. MEDITATION ON THE BEATITUDES

”Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the Children of God.’ The servant of God cannot know how much patience and humility he has within himself as long as everything goes well with him. But when the time comes in which those who should do him justice do quite the opposite to him, he has only as much patience and humility as he has on that occasion and no more.

”Blessed are the poor in spirit, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.’ There are many who, applying themselves insistently to prayers and good deeds, engage in much abstinence and many mortifications of their bodies, but they are scandalised and quickly roused to anger by a single word which seems injurious to their person, or by some other things which might be taken from them. These persons are not poor in spirit because a person who is truly poor in spirit hates himself, and loves those who strike him on the cheek.

”Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.’ The true peacemakers are those who preserve peace of mind and body for love of our Lord Jesus Christ, despite what they suffer in this world.

”Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.’ The truly pure of heart are those who despise the things of earth and seek the things of heaven, and who never cease to adore and behold the Lord God living and true with a pure heart and soul.

Blessed is that servant who does not pride himself on the good that the Lord says or does through him any more than on what he says or does through another. That person sins who wishes to receive more from his neighbour than what he is willing to give of himself to the Lord God.

Blessed is the person who bears with his neighbour in his weakness to the degree that he would wish to be sustained by him if he were in a similar situation. Blessed is the servant who attributes every good to the Lord God, for he who holds back something for himself hides within himself the money of his Lord God, and that which he thought he had shall be taken away from him

Blessed is the servant who esteems himself no better when he is praised and exalted by people than when he is considered worthless, simple, and despicable; for what a man is before God, that he is and nothing more.

Woe to that religious who has been placed in a high position by others and does not wish to come down of his own will. And blessed is that servant who does not place himself in a high position of his own will and always desires to be under the feet of others.

Blessed is that religious who takes no pleasure and joy except in the most holy words and deeds of the Lord and with these leads people to the love of God in joy and gladness. Woe to that religious who delights in in idle and frivolous words and with these provokes people to laughter.

Blessed is the servant who, when he speaks, does not reveal everything about himself in the hope of receiving a reward, and who is not quick to speak but wisely weighs what he should say and how he should reply. Woe to that religious who does not keep in heart the good things the Lord reveals to him, and who does not manifest them to others by his actions, but rather seeks to make such good things known by his words. He thereby receives his reward, while those who listen to him carry away but little fruit.

Blessed is the servant who would accept correction, accusation, and blame from another as patiently as he would from himself. Blessed is the servant who when he is rebuked quietly agrees, respectfully submits, humbly admits his fault, and willingly makes amends. Blessed is the servant who is not quick to excuse himself and who humbly accepts shame and blame for a sin, even though he did not commit any fault.

.Blessed is the servant who is found to be as humble among his subjects as

he would be among his masters. Blessed is the servant who remains always under the rod of correction. He is the faithful and prudent servant, who for all his offences does not delay in punishing himself, inwardly through contrition and outwardly through confession and penance for what he did.

Blessed is the servant who would love his brother as much when he is sick and cannot repay him as he would when he is well and can repay him.

Blessed is the servant who would love and respect his brother as much when he is far from him as he would when he is with him; and who would not say anything behind his back which in charity he could not say to his face.

Blessed is that servant who stores up in heaven the good things which the Lord has revealed to him and does not desire to reveal them to others in the hope of profiting thereby, for the Most High himself will manifest his deeds to whomsoever he wishes. Blessed is the servant who keeps the secrets of the Lord in his heart

Where there is love and wisdom,
there is neither fear nor ignorance.
Where there is patience and humility,
there is neither anger nor annoyance.
Where there is poverty and joy,
there is neither cupidity nor avarice.
Where there is peace and contemplation,
there is neither care nor restlessness.
Where fear of the Lord guards the house,
there no enemy can enter.
Where there is mercy and prudence,
there is neither excess nor harshness.
The Admonitions, xxii—xxv, xxvii, xxviii.

32. PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR COMMUNION

Like as the watchman looks for the morning,
even so do we wait for you, O Christ:
Come to us in the dawning of the day,
and make yourself known to us
in the breaking of the bread;
for you are our God for ever and ever.

33 A MORNING COLLECT.

The night has passed and the day lies open before us;
Let us pray with one heart and mind.
As we rejoice in the gift of this new day
so may the light of your presence O God
set our hearts on fire with love for you,
now and for ever, **Amen.**

34. AN EVENING COLLECT

As our evening prayer comes before you O God

so may your mercy come down upon us
to cleanse our hearts
and set us free to sing your praise
now and for ever **Amen**

35.SOME SHORT PRAYERS

My God and my All.

Who are you, my Lord and my God.
and who am I, your most unworthy servant?

Most holy Lord, I desire to love
and to serve you more and more.

My Lord and my God:
I have given you all my heart and body;
and I most earnestly desire,
if only I may know how,
to do still more for you.

HYMNS

1

1.All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

2.Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening find a voice.

3.Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest man both warmth and light.

4.Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise him, Alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them his glory also show.

5. And all ye men of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye, Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and on him cast your care

6. And thou, most kind and gentle death,
Waiting to hush our latest breath,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Thou ledest home the child of God,
And Christ our Lord the way hath trod.

7. Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One.

Tune: Lasst uns erfreuen
(EH 519, NEH 263, AMR 172, AMNS 105)

2.

1. Hail to Christ's wounds, which first did hide
Within Saint Francis' loving heart,
Ere to his hands and feet and side
Their form without did love impart.

2. By grace and love, within our breast,
O may those wounds be graven deep,
And seal us for that Sabbath-rest
Which saints with Christ on high do keep.

3. Jesu, will glory be to thee,
Who reignest in each lowly heart,
And one through all eternity
With Father and with Spirit art. Amen

Tune: Breslau
(EH 484, NEH 76, AMR 333, AMNS 237)

3.

1. The first good joy
that Francis had,
It was the joy of earth,
To drink the blessed cup of life,
Of beauty and of mirth.
Of beauty and of mirth, good Lord,
Then happy may we be,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

To all eternity.

2.The next good joy that Francis had,
It was to give up all,
To find our dear Lord Jesus Christ
And follow at his call.
To follow at his call, good Lord .

..

3.The third good joy that Francis had,
It was to beg his bread,
To have, like Jesus Christ our Lord,
Not where to lay his head.
Not where to lay his head, good Lord .

..

4.The fourth good joy that Francis had,
It was God's praise to sing,
To bid his creatures great and small
Rejoice in everything.
Rejoice in everything, good Lord .

..

5.The fifth good joy that Francis had,
It was to clothe Saint Clare,
To see her wooed by Jesus Christ,,
His poverty to share.
His poverty to share, good Lord .

..

6.The sixth good joy that Francis had,
It was to suffer pain,
To find in Jesus Christ our Lord
That all our loss is gain.
That all our loss is gain, good Lord .

..

7. The last good joy that Francis had
It was to yield his breath
To lie upon dear Mother Earth
And welcome Sister Death
To welcome Sister Death good Lord...

Tune Joys seven(trad)

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The Third Order
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