

BULA
INTER SANCTOS
PROCLAIMING SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI
AS PATRON OF ECOLOGY

JOHN PAUL II,
as a perpetual memorial.

Among the holy and admirable men who have revered nature as a wonderful gift of God to the human race, St Francis of Assisi deserves special consideration. For he, in a special way, deeply sensed the universal works of the Creator and, filled with a certain divine spirit, sang that very beautiful "Canticum of the Creatures". Through them, Brother Sun most powerful and Sister Moon and the stars of heaven, he offered fitting praise, glory, honour and all blessing to the most high, all-powerful, good Lord.

Therefore, taking opportune counsel, Our Venerable Brother, Cardinal Silvio Oddi, Prefect of the Sacred Congregation for Clerics, on special behalf of the members of the International Association popularly called "Planning Environmental and Ecological Institute for Quality of Life", requested from this Apostolic See that St Francis of Assisi be proclaimed Patron before God of those who promote ecology.

Following the opinion of the Sacred Congregation for the Sacraments and Divine Worship, and by force of these letters and in perpetuity, We proclaim St Francis of Assisi heavenly Patron of those who promote ecology, adding all appropriate honours and liturgical privileges, anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

We declare that these present definitive letters be religiously observed, and that they are to have their effects both now and in the future.

Given at St Peter's, Rome, under the Fisherman's ring, on the twenty-ninth day of November, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-nine, the second year of our Pontificate.

(seal of John Paul II)

IOANNES PAULUS PP. II