

DAY BY DAY WITH ST. FRANCIS

MINUTE MEDITATIONS FOR EVERY DAY
CONTAINING A QUOTE, A REFLECTION,
AND A SCRIPTURAL PRAYER

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Illustrated



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AYING aside all shame, he went about begging from those who had known him in his affluence, bearing the stones on his frail body, worn with fasting [until] the Church had been repaired.

JAN.
17

Bonaventure, The Life of St. Francis, 2, 7

REFLECTION. The lives of the Saints are full of stories of personal humiliation.

Even after leaving all of his earthly goods, Francis endured the most difficult renunciation of all—giving up his pride.

PRAYER. *We are fools for the sake of Christ.*

(1 Cor 4:10)



RANCIS, hearing wherein Christ gave His disciples the pattern for their life, that they should possess neither gold, nor silver, nor money for their journey, was filled with joy and said, "This is what I long for with my whole heart."

JAN.
18

Bonaventure, The Life of St. Francis, 3, 1

REFLECTION. Many a Saint has been given direction from the reading of Scripture—St. Anthony of the Desert, St. Augustine, St. Francis, St. Clare among others.

Truly listening and receiving the Word of God can be a life-changing experience.

PRAYER. *Indeed, the word of God is living and active.*

(Heb 4:12)



MOREOVER, he taught them to praise God in all things and through all His creatures. **FEB. 10**

Bonaventure, The Life of St. Francis, 4, 3

REFLECTION. There is a comprehensive loving embrace of absolutely everything in the Franciscan way.

While some find God in the Church and sacred things and some find God in nature, Francis saw God everywhere.

PRAYER. *Where could I go to hide from your spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?*

(Ps 139:7)



HE holy man began to scrutinize the secret things of their consciences, to console them with that marvelous vision, and to foretell many things that should come to pass concerning the progress of the Order. **FEB. 11**

Bonaventure, The Life of St. Francis, 4, 4

REFLECTION. There are so many things we don't understand about life, especially about the inner workings of our own self and our future path.

But God, in His omniscience, knows all of these things. In His love, He works them all together for our good.

PRAYER. *For we know that God makes all things work together for good.*

(Rom 8:28)



IN THAT place where there is bitter disagreement, may I bring about unity. **JULY**

Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace **21**

REFLECTION. The work of being an instrument of God's peace is not for the faint of heart.

Paul is probably the best Christian unifier in history, and yet, his ministry was full of challenges, which he met with unfailing strength and endurance. Are you ready to be an instrument of God's peace?

PRAYER. *In everything we do, we present ourselves as ministers of God: in steadfast perseverance; afflictions, hardships, beatings, labors, sleepless nights, and fasts, purity, knowledge, patience and kindness.* (2 Cor 6:4-6)



IN THAT place where there is error, may I bring the truth. **JULY**

Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace **22**

REFLECTION. Speaking the truth is not the hard part if you are steeped in Scripture and practicing your faith. The real challenge is speaking the truth in such a way that people will hear and accept it.

To speak the truth in love is a gift of the Holy Spirit at work in us.

PRAYER. *Only by speaking the truth in love can we mature in all ways to be like Christ, who is our head.* (Eph 4:15)



AND if you do not do this, know that you are beholden to render an account before your Lord God Jesus Christ on the Day of Judgment. **AUG. 8**

To the Rulers of the People

REFLECTION. Accountability is a scary word. You may encounter it at work, or at the gym, or in a relationship. It means being responsible for our actions.

The ultimate accountability is due to the One Who made us, and Who is all powerful and omniscient.

PRAYER. *After a long period of time, the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them.* (Mt 25:19)



ENTREAT you that when it is becoming and expedient, you humbly beseech the clerics to venerate above all the most holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ and His Holy Name. **AUG. 9**

To All the Franciscan Superiors

REFLECTION. That Jesus is unique among all the characters of history is obvious, but that He has given us His Body and Blood and thereby remains with us is what makes Catholics unique.

In fact the longevity, the breadth, and the riches of the Catholic Church are so completely without equal that only Christ's presence in the Church can explain it.

PRAYER. *The living father sent me and I draw life from Him; so whoever feeds on me will also draw life from me.* (Jn 6:57)