

We Are God's Holy People

Keep these ideas in mind as you study *Chapter 3*.

❖ When God the Father made us, he called us to be holy. God called us to know, love, and serve him. Remember that Jesus, the saints, and other holy people care for God's creation and for all people. Their caring serves God.

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❖ Francis was a rich young man, but God called him to give everything away and live like an apostle. He did that with joy, but it was not easy. Many of the stories about Francis involve animals.

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❖ Francis believed that people and animals should praise God. Francis preached to the birds. He told them to praise God for the blessings he had given them. The birds sang to show their joy. Francis is said to have made peace between a village and a wolf. Francis told the villagers to care for the wolf. He asked the wolf not to hurt anyone. He taught the people and the wolf to be kind to each other.

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❖ Like her friend Francis, Clare and her followers gave away everything they owned to serve God. The Poor Clares did not own anything. They relied on the kindness of others for their food and clothing. When invaders were attacking, Clare went to an open window and held up the Blessed Sacrament. At the sight of the Blessed Sacrament, the invaders turned around and ran away!

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❖ Saint Clare and Saint Francis show us that happiness is not about having a comfortable life. Happiness comes from knowing, loving, and serving God.

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❖ We are holy when we are kind and loving. Think about how you might act as Jesus would.

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