

# Francis of Assisi

Keeper of Creation

1181/82–1226

Born in Assisi, Italy

Feast Day: October 4

Patronage:

Animals, nature, and Italy

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## Dedication

To my family:  
my parents Jim and Peg,  
my husband Bill,  
our son Sam and daughter-in-law Erin,  
and our precious grandchildren  
Ben, Lucas, and Andrew

To all the children I have had the privilege of  
teaching throughout the years.

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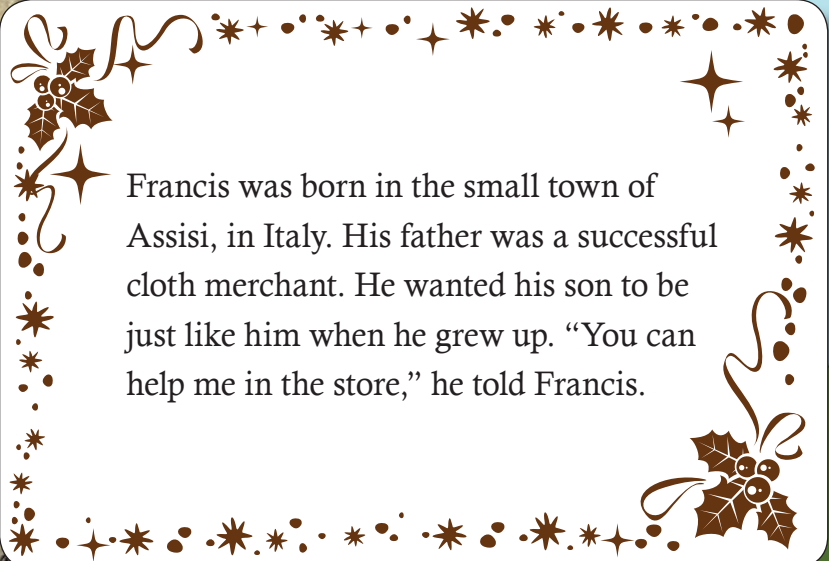
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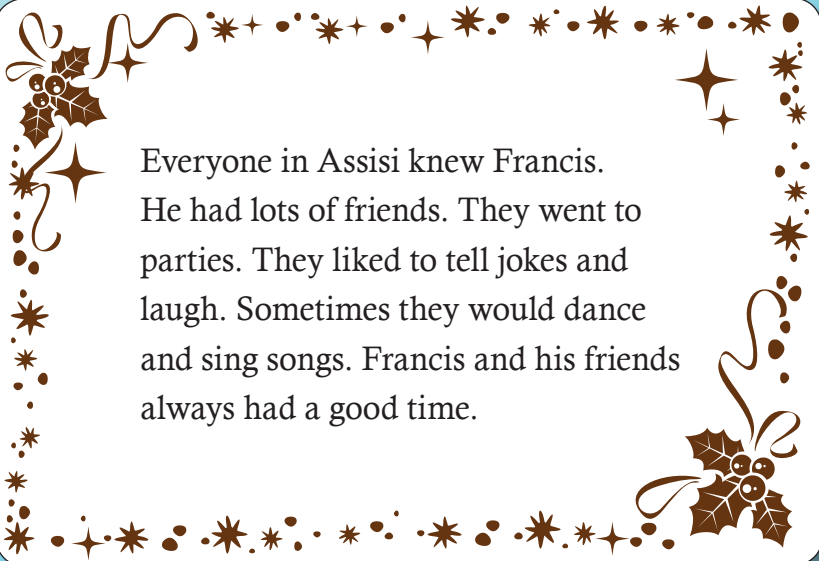
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Francis was born in the small town of Assisi, in Italy. His father was a successful cloth merchant. He wanted his son to be just like him when he grew up. “You can help me in the store,” he told Francis.

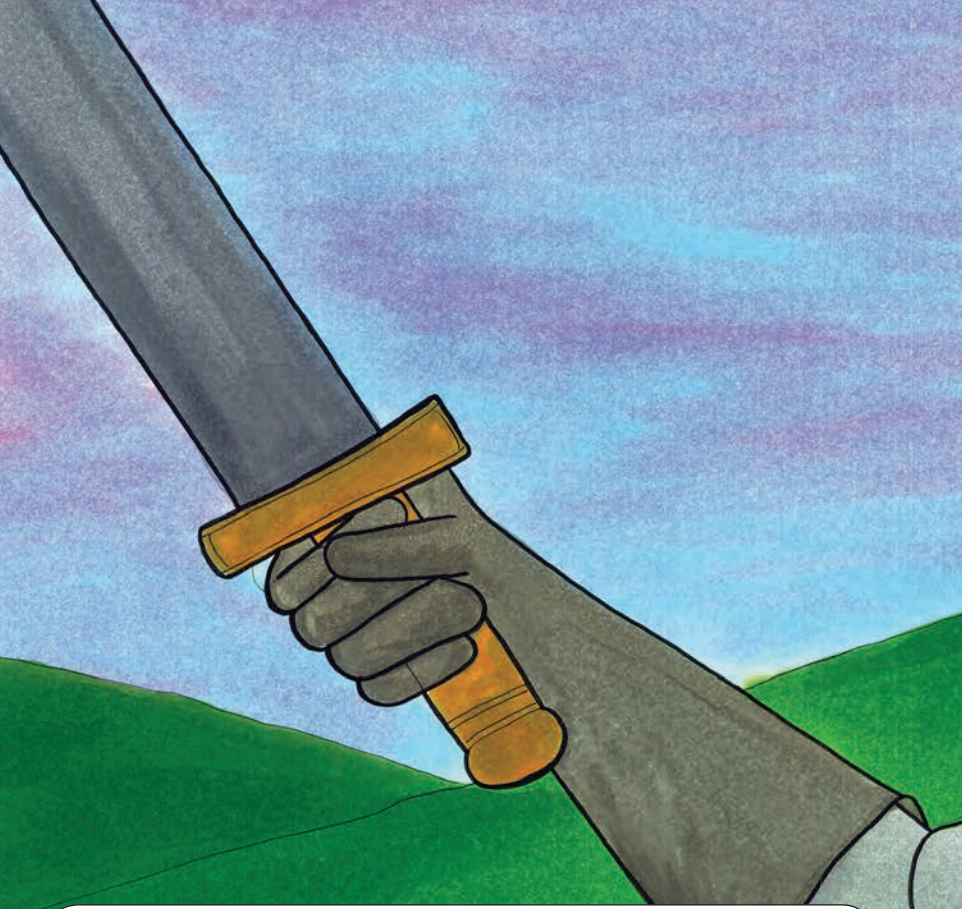


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Everyone in Assisi knew Francis.  
He had lots of friends. They went to  
parties. They liked to tell jokes and  
laugh. Sometimes they would dance  
and sing songs. Francis and his friends  
always had a good time.

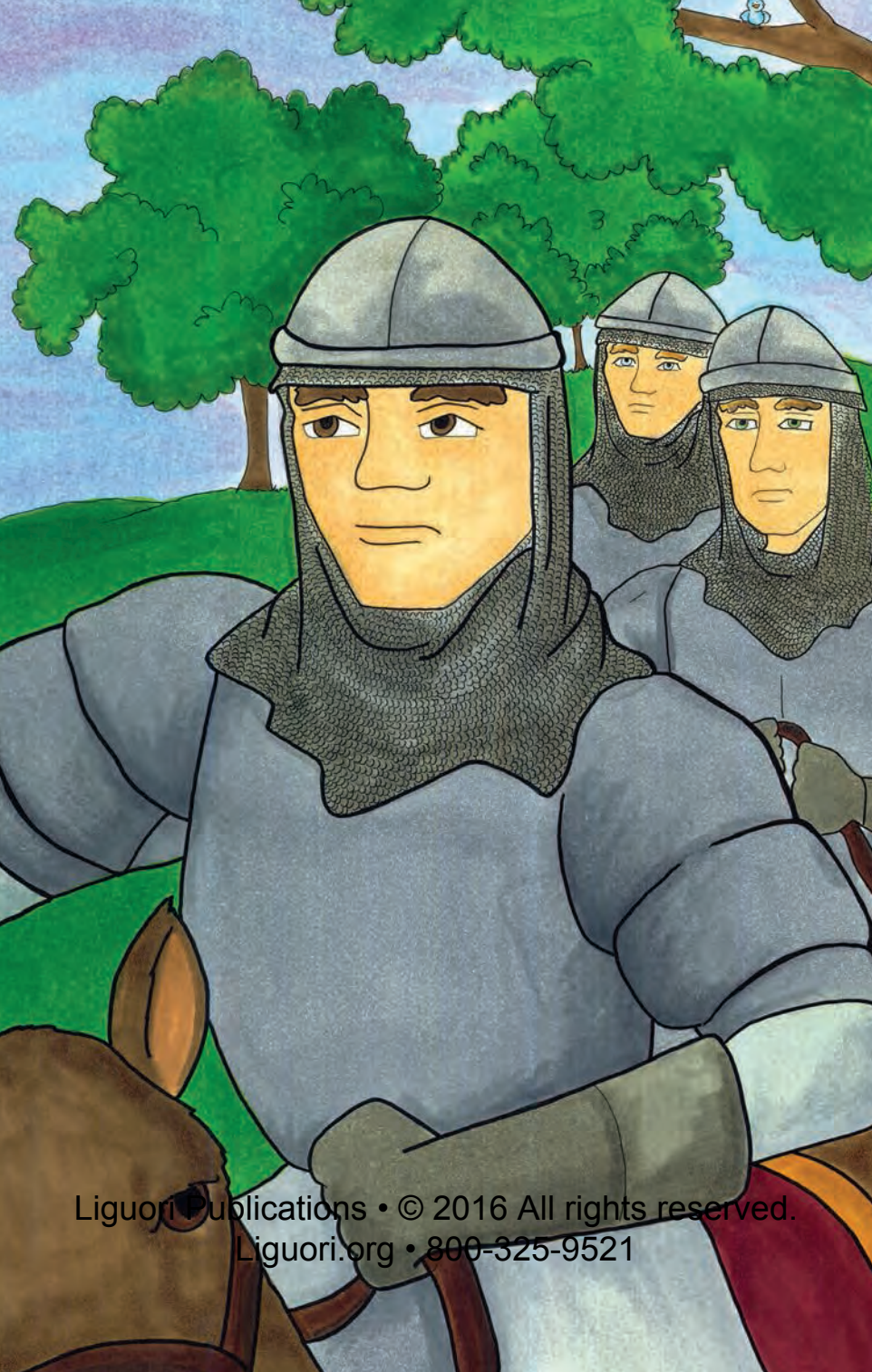




When Francis grew up he joined the army. He wanted to be a knight. This was his chance to be strong and brave. But Francis was captured and put in prison. He was there for a long time. In prison, he thought and thought.

“What should I do with my life?” he asked himself.

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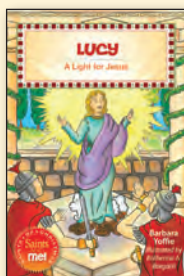


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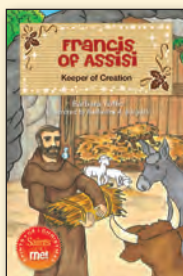


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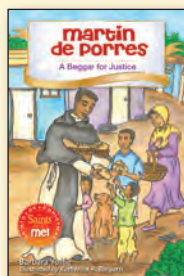
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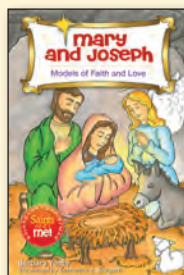
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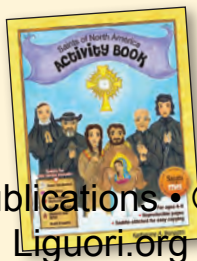
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