

## We must be simple, humble and pure

from a letter written to all the faithful by Saint Francis of Assisi

It was through his archangel, Saint Gabriel, that the Father above made known to the holy and glorious Virgin Mary that the worthy, holy and glorious Word of the Father would come from heaven and take from her womb the real flesh of our human frailty.

Though he was wealthy beyond reckoning, he still willingly chose to be poor with his blessed mother.

Let us have charity and humility. Let us give alms because these cleanse our souls from the stains of sin.

Men lose all the material things they leave behind them in this world, but they carry with them the reward of their charity and the alms they give. For these they will receive from the Lord the reward and recompense they deserve.

We must not be wise and prudent according to the flesh. Rather we must be simple, humble and pure.

We should never desire to be over others. Instead, we ought to be servants who are submissive to every human being for God's sake.

The Spirit of the Lord will rest on all who live in this way and persevere in it to the end. He will permanently dwell in them.