

**How big does a
Canticle of the Creatures
Meditation Garden need to be?**

Your Canticle Garden can be a plot of land or a window box. It can be an enclosed pot of a variety of plants and symbols dedicated to this prayer. By putting it together, by celebrating the elements, by praying with it, you free the spirit of St. Francis, for peace and beauty to increase in our world.

If and when you create your own Canticle Garden, register it on Lourdes Website.

*We welcome you
to share your stories.*



**Perhaps you might want to create your own
Canticle of the Creatures Meditation Garden.**

*Why create a Canticle of the Creatures
Meditation Garden?*

~

- To set aside some part of the earth as an intentional place of praise.
- To celebrate the elements of creation.
- To establish a real place in the world that entreats for peace day and night.
- To let the land pray, evolve, develop, beautify.
- To put more beauty, grace, forgiveness, possibility in the world.
- To send out living energy and living prayer.
- To provide a place of witness and refuge.
- To honor hope.

Landscape Artist:
Matthew Cosenza, The Amazing Tree

Artistic Concept:
Sr. Marianne Hieb, RSM

Project Director:
Sr. Helen Owens, OSF

LOURDES WELLNESS CENTER

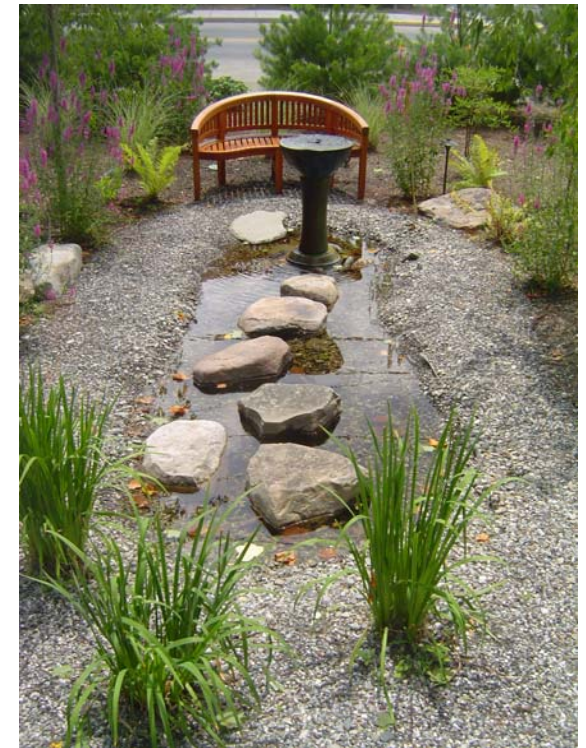
900 Haddon Ave, Suite 100, Collingswood, NJ 08108

856-869-3125

www.LourdesWellnessCenter.org

Sponsored by Our Lady of Lourdes Health System,
a Ministry of the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, NY

*The Canticle of the Creatures~
A Meditation Garden
of Peace, Healing & Wholeness*



**Located Adjacent to
The Little Portion of
Lourdes Wellness Center**

1049 Haddon Avenue
Collingswood, NJ 08108



Just by setting your foot upon the path, you have become a part of the garden. You join the creatures here whose themes are celebrated: the sun, moon, stars, wind, earth, fire and water.

Your presence here deepens the prayer for pardon and the hope for peace.

You give praise by bringing your life into this space for meditation. May your time here be a deepening and enlightening of what you need to see and to hear.

“The Canticle of the Creatures” is a hymn of praise composed by St. Francis in a garden in Assisi, Italy. He wrote it at a time in his life when he was in great pain and was going blind. Still, he saw the beauty of creation; he offered praise and witness to the need for pardon and peace. Through his example, you seek out the elements of the garden. Through his intercession you are taught by beauty and the mystery of life, diminishment, dying and rising into a new life. A garden teaches us this cycle of renewal.

Just wander.

Listen, slow down, ponder and enjoy.

At the conclusion of your prayer time here today, notice any invitations to

**Praise
Gratitude
Grace
Deepening**



The Canticle of the Creatures

Most high, all-powerful. All holy One
Yours are the praises, the glory, the honor and all blessing
To you alone, most High, do they belong,
and no person is worthy to mention your name

Praised be you, my Lord, with all of your creatures

Especially Sir Brother Sun

Who is the day and through whom you give us light
And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor
And bears a likeness to you, most High One

Praised be you my Lord, through Sister Moon and Stars
In heaven you formed them clear and precious and beautiful

Praised be you, my Lord, through Brother Wind
And through the air, cloudy and serene and every kind of weather

Through which you give sustenance to all your creatures

Praised be you, my Lord, through Sister Water
Which is very useful and humble and precious and pure

Praised be you, my Lord, through Brother Fire
Through whom you light the night
And he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong
Praised be you my Lord through our sister, Mother Earth
Who sustains and governs us
And who produces varied fruits with colored flowers and herbs

Praised be you, my Lord, through those who give pardon
for your love, And bear infirmity and tribulation

Blessed are those who endure in peace
For you, most high, they shall be crowned.

All praise be yours, my Lord, through Sister Death
From whose embrace no mortal can escape
Woe to those who die unrepented
Happy those she finds doing your will
The second death can do no harm to them

Praise
and give thanks
and serve God with great humility



Here are some questions you might want to use for your reflection.

- What is my unique song of praise?
- What does my life today add to the Canticle?
- For what am I grateful?
- In what ways am I called to service?
- How am I being invited to deepen, to rest, to listen, to return?

