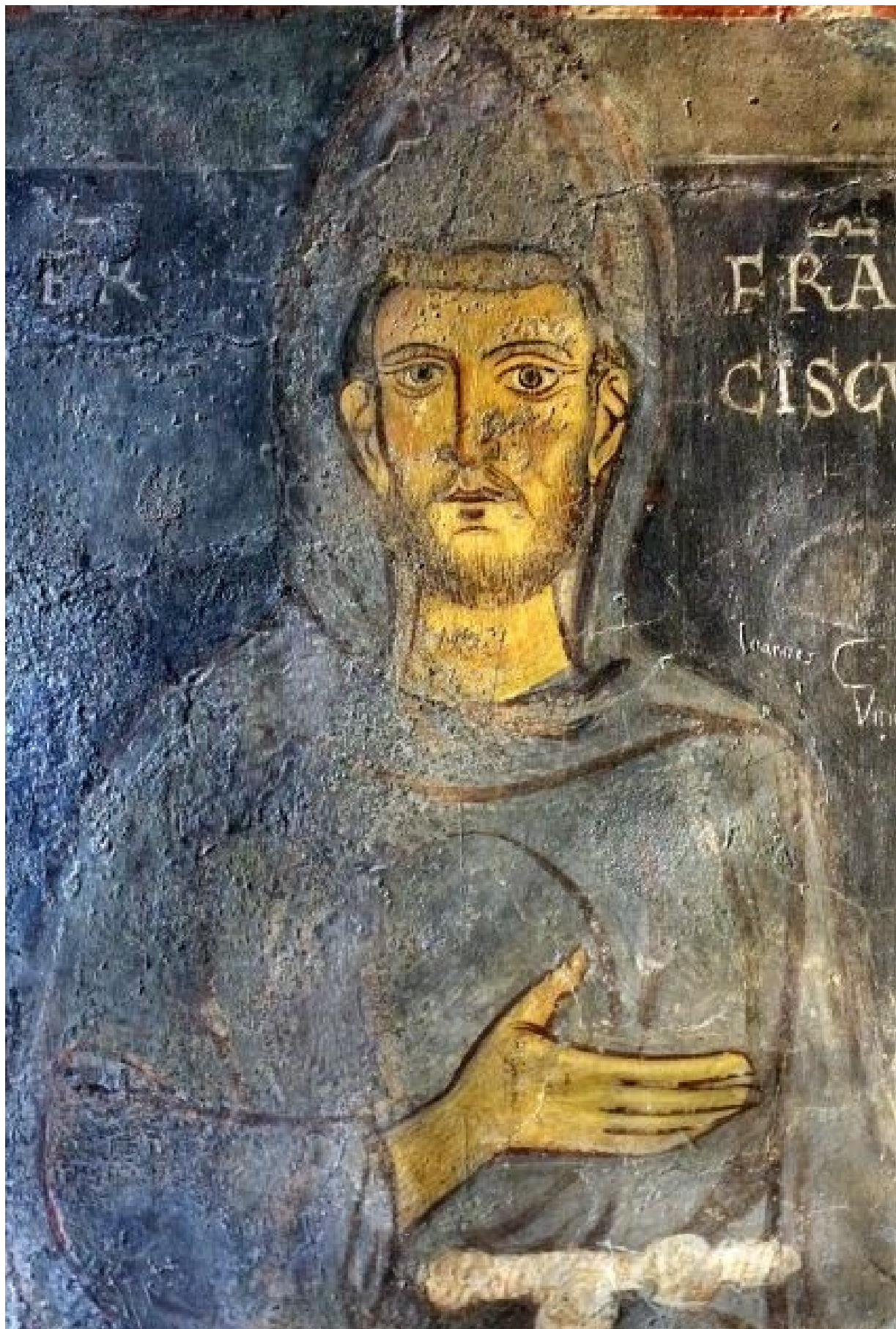


# The Canticle of Creation



O Most  
High, all-powerful, good Lord God,  
to you belong praise, glory,  
honour and all blessing.  
Be praised, my Lord, for all your creation  
and especially for our Brother Sun,  
who brings us the day and the light;  
he is strong and shines magnificently.  
O Lord, we think of you when we look at him.  
Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Moon,  
and for the stars  
which you have set shining and lovely  
in the heavens.  
Be praised, my Lord,  
for our Brothers Wind  
and Air  
and every kind of weather  
by which you, Lord,  
uphold life in all your creatures.  
Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Water,  
who is very useful to us,  
and humble and precious and pure.  
Be praised, my Lord, for  
Brother Fire,  
through whom you give us light in the darkness:  
he is bright and lively and strong.  
Be praised, my Lord,  
for Sister Earth, our Mother,  
who nourishes us and sustains us,  
bringing forth  
fruits and vegetables of many kinds  
and flowers of many colours.  
Be praised, my Lord,  
for those who forgive for love of you;  
and for those  
who bear sickness and weakness  
in peace and patience  
- you will grant them a crown.  
Be praised, my Lord, for our Sister Death,  
whom we must all face.  
I praise and bless you, Lord,  
and I give thanks to you,  
and I will serve you in all humility.

St. Francis of Assisi