



*Prayer
for
Pope Francis*

Gracious God,
We lift up your servant **Jorge Mario Bergoglio**
newly elected to lead the People of God.
May he find inspiration in his chosen name: *Francis*

May he hear the call to "rebuild the church" as did Francis of Assisi,
to eschew outmoded traditions and unnecessary pomp, as did Francis of Assisi ...

May he see the essential dignity in each person, whether leper or lord, as did Francis of Assisi ...

May he understand the connectedness of all beings and nature - fostering respect for
"Brother Wind" and "Sister Water" as did Francis of Assisi ...

May he discover new ways of being church in today's world,
just as Francis of Assisi did in founding a new order in his time...

And may he be open to the voice of the Spirit and the signs of the times,
as our Church enters into the Easter promise
of new life,
the unfolding of the mystery of God's grace,
the revelation of our redemption
in the glory of the Risen Lord!

Amen