



FLIP-FLOP
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The Wolf of Gubbio.

This storybook belongs to:

Name:..... **Age:**.....

Class:..... **School:**.....

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THE TWO LITTLE LAMBS

(1Cel 79,)

Another day, Saint Francis was travelling through the woods when he met a man on the way to the market with two lambs hanging over his shoulders. He had tied their feet tightly together with rope so they could not escape. The little lambs were terrified and in pain and they bleated pitifully.

When Saint Francis heard their bleating and saw their distress his heart was deeply moved and at once he went to help them. He greeted the man first and then he stroked the lambs in sympathy just as a mother would comfort a child if it was hurt and in tears. Then he talked with the man: “Brother, why are you torturing my little lambs all so tied up and hanging like this?”

The man replied, “I am carrying them to the market to sell them because I need the money.”

Saint Francis then asked, “And what will become of them?”

“The buyers will kill them for food,” was his answer.

“Oh! Never!” said Saint Francis. “Here, take my habit to sell and give me the lambs.” And Saint Francis gave the man his clothes to buy the lambs. Saint Francis now owned the lambs, but he had no place to keep them.

So finally he returned them to the man and made him promise that he would not sell them again, but would keep them and look after them.



Nature became a spiritual ladder² by which Saint Francis climbed up to God. He praised God for the beauty of creation and saw the glory of God shining through the warmth of the sun and the light of the moon, through fire and water and wind and the stars at night and the brightly, coloured flowers of the earth.

We too, like Saint Francis can respect and appreciate all creatures, and through them we can learn to say simple prayers.

“O God, all things are beautiful, the sunrise; the hills; the trees; the roses; the faces of my family and friends; our pets; the sea; the fish in the sea; the birds that fly; the clouds; the sunset; the stars; the moon at night. All these things are wonderful! Thank you God for Saint Francis who helps us all see all the beauty in this world!”

Amen.

² He made all things a ladder by which he climbed up to God by the mystic art of contemplation. (2Cel 165)