

**The Portiuncula Indulgence**  
**Our Mother Church**  
**Feast Day - Aug 2**

(The following is an excerpt from:  
The Major Life of St. Francis by St. Bonaventure.)

The Portiuncula was an old church dedicated to the Virgin Mother of God which was abandoned. Francis had great devotion to the Queen of the world and when he saw that the church was deserted, he began to live there constantly in order to repair it. He heard that the Angels often visited it, so that it was called Saint Mary of the Angels, and he decided to stay there permanently out of reverence for the angels and love for the Mother of Christ.

He loved this spot more than any other in the world. It was here he began his religious life in a very small way; it is here he came to a happy end. When he was dying, he commended this spot above all others to the friars, because it was most dear to the Blessed Virgin.

As he was living there by the church of Our Lady, Francis prayed to her who had conceived the Word, full of grace and truth, begging her insistently and with tears to become his advocate. Then he was granted the true spirit of the Gospel by the intercession of the Mother of mercy and he brought it to fruition.

**CONDITIONS TO OBTAIN THE PLENARY INDULGENCE  
OF THE FORGIVENESS OF ASSISI**  
(for oneself or for a departed soul)

- Sacramental Confession to be in God's grace (during the eight days before or after);
- Participation in the Holy Mass and Eucharist.
- Visit to a Catholic Church, on August 2<sup>nd</sup> followed by PROFESSION OF FAITH, in order to reaffirm one's own Christian identity;
- Say the OUR FATHER, in order to reaffirm the dignity as child of God that one received in Baptism;
- A prayer for the Pope's intention, in order to reaffirm one's membership in the Church, of which the Roman Pontiff is the foundation and sign of visible unity
  - One Our Father and Hail Mary and Glory be