

Our Animal Saints

*"Thank you, my friendly daemon, close to me as my shadow
Thank you for the abandon of your giving,
For seeing in the dark, for making this life worth living."*

Gavin Maxwell



Bonnie, her mom and

Sophia - God put Sophia in my life to teach me how to continue to give and receive unconditional love and to remind me that I am not alone.



Moses from Denise Anderson

Moses is my daughter's cat. Occasionally we get to care for him when she goes away. He brings much love and joyful energy to our home.



From Laura Tenisci

This is Charley our Cairn terrier. He is a gentle, playful little dog who blesses us with cuddles and love.



Bears from Pamela Sempel

Bears are powerful creatures and symbols in mythology, story, and on earth. Bears stir our imagination and awaken the power of our subconscious mind. As bears slow down and hibernate, they remind us to move slowly and drop inside ourselves to make choices from our places of intuitive knowledge.



From Dawn Meyer

Here is a picture of my Beagle named Corazon. She has brought us much happiness during this difficult time and reminds us of the playfulness and joy God brings to us through creation.



Dragonfly from Cheryl Gudger



The Creature: our dog, Cole, of Coles Road, and "immigrant" from B.C. & a slug, one of God's creatures.



My Haiku

Contemplative Cat

Nellie was her name

Her gift...love, comfort

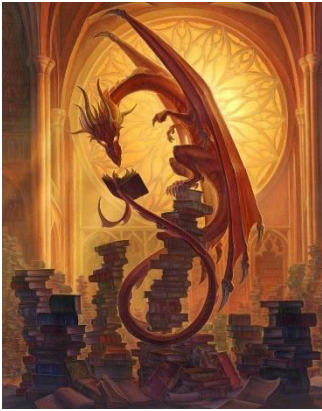
Swept cancer's presence

Into stillness, away, away from Joanne Grosso



Copernicus aka Nick, a friend's dog, is an animal, and was **a spirit companion** and calming presence during quarantine for a couple days. Reminding me I am not alone no matter what the circumstances bring.

From Suzanne Johnson



I realize that this isn't a "real" animal, but this rendition of a red dragon has always sung to my heart - A great, powerful, often misunderstood creature who collects books because they are a treasure beyond measure and who reads both for enjoyment and for study. (and the background reminds me of a cathedral)

From Tess Sutton



My serene cat Eleanor is my animal saint. She's a true Benedictine who greets everyone who comes to our home.

From Valerie Kolarik



Chris Lubinski is a Priory Fiber Arts artist. Here she is with her friends, also artists in their own way.



My animal "saint" is the great blue heron. Here is my reason:
Great blue heron - patient and still as she waits for what she needs, aligned with spirit as she takes flight, faithful to community as she nests.

From Susan Johnson



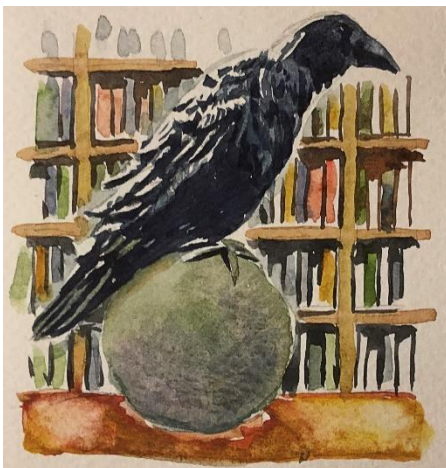
Great Blue Herons and gulls on Budd Bay.

From Ann Cacciari



"Saint" Sugar: Her complete trust and simple happiness in just being with me are deeply touching. She has taught me to stop, breathe and simply be...

From Maria Slizys



Crow/Raven for me. Why? Raven obeyed St Benedict's command to dispose Florentius' poisoned bread. And hundreds of crows come to roost in UW Bothell. So I see these saints all around town.

From Roy DeLeon



Barbara Williams and Duffy

This is Duffy. Since we are currently dog-less, I go to my friend Kathy's to hold him and wish we had a dog. The holdup is that we can't decide puppy or mature, Lab or Cocker. Meanwhile I am Duffy's "Auntie Barbara."



from Sharon Pikula

"Mooooooooooooo"
I'm busy getting my exercise.
The "Moo" was louder.
Why are you "Mooing" at me?
I walk across the road and we met.
I looked into her brown penetrating eyes and my heart melted
I have time.



Symbology: Mother Earth & wisdom, determination & longevity, true to one's path, endurance even in darkness. Vulnerable & endangered: metaphor for our need for God.

from Linda Fredericks



Hummingbirds, flashing, argumentative, delight me. But the sentinel Great Blue Heron, a silent guardian in the autumn mists, speaks to me of our Creator.

From Anne Nelson



Meet beloved “Anton” — the young seagull Anne and I rescued in the summer of 2018 — who opened my heart to the natural world wider than I knew possible. It was Anton who inspired my Cinema Divina film, “I Love What You Said to Me” — a meditation on how the moment of loving one thing connects us to every moment we have loved anything. Here’s a link to that film: <https://vimeo.com/marefree”man/i-love-what-you-said-to-me>