

# Integral Faith

"Homily helps and liturgy resources highlighting care for our common home."



## Homily Resources and Petitions for the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time Cycle C (16 January 2022)

### Homily Helps

#### † Scripture passages to note:

**Isaiah 62:4:** For Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet until her vindication shines. ... No more shall people call you "Forsaken," or your land "Desolate," but you shall be called "My delight," and your land "Espoused."

**Psalms 96:1:** Proclaim God's marvelous deeds to all the nations. ... Tell his glory among all nations. ... God governs the peoples with equity.

**1 Cor. 12:7:** To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit. To one is given through the Spirit the expression of wisdom; to another, ... healing by the one Spirit; to another, mighty deeds.

**John 2:6-7:** Jesus said to [Mary]: "Woman, how does your concern affect me?" [She] said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you."

#### † Passages from *Laudato Si'* to note:

Creation can only be understood as a gift from the outstretched hand of the Father of all, and as a reality illumined by the love which calls us together into universal communion. (#76)

In some places there is a growing tendency, despite its scarcity, to privatize [water], turning it into a commodity subject to the laws of the market. Yet *access to safe drinkable water is a basic and universal right.* (#30)

Greater scarcity of water will lead to an increase in the cost of food and the various products which depend on its use. The environmental repercussions could affect billions of people; it is also conceivable that the control of water by multinational businesses may become a major source of conflict in this century. (#31)

As Pope Benedict XVI notes, "The external deserts in the world are growing, because the internal deserts have become so vast." For this reason, the ecological crisis is also a summons to profound interior conversion ... whereby the effects of their encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in their relationship with the world around them. (#217)

All it takes is one good person to restore hope! (#71)

### † **Comment for the day:**

As Catholics, we see all of life sacramentally. God reaches us through His word that we hear and the sacraments that we celebrate, especially the Eucharist. Everything that is part of nature – trees and crops, fruit and vegetables, water and sunshine – are provided for us by God that we might have life. The richness and beauty of our world is a sign of God’s bounteous love for us.

In many parts of the world, agribusiness now forces farming families out of their own businesses. In other parts of the world, industrial economies and consumerism are polluting land and water, depleting forests and fishing stocks, and contributing to climate change that induces drought and flooding. All of this threatens the fruitfulness of creation – and human lives.

The result is that what should be a source of life no longer serves as a sign of God's bounty. Just as the bounty of the land spoke to the Jews in Jesus' day about the goodness of God, we too must read the signs of our times in light of our faith as Christians. Pope Francis calls us to care for creation not simply as a secular task for survival, but as an outpouring of our love for the Creator and His handiwork. Our Christian faith and Catholic sacramental sense should drive us to consider ourselves “delighted” and “espoused” with nature rather than wondering, “What does concern for the planet have to do with me?”

### † **Related Prayers of the Faithful**

**Option 1:** That our appreciation for nature’s beauty becomes so deep that we will never forsake it, but rather delight in it as part of creation, let us pray to the Lord...

**Option 2:** That we will take such good care of creation that we will more fully experience God's infinite love and affection for us, let us pray to the Lord...

## Further Resources

Feedback: [Info@CatholicClimateCovenant.org](mailto:Info@CatholicClimateCovenant.org)

Webpage: [www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/resource/english-homily-help](http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/resource/english-homily-help)

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