

Integral Faith

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



Homily Helps and Petitions for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B (October 24, 2021)

Homily Helps

† Scripture Passages to Note:

Jeremiah 31: They departed in tears, but I will console them and guide them; I will lead them to brooks of water, on a level road, so that none shall stumble.

Psalms 126: Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the torrents in the southern desert. Those that sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.

Mark 10: Jesus, son of David, have pity on me.

† Comments for the Day:

Our readings today highlight the plight of the people of God. In the first reading and the responsorial psalm the people find themselves in exile, far from their land and yearning for a return to their previous life. They cry out to the Lord who hears them and promises comfort. A desert people are promised torrents of water to ease their suffering.

In the gospel the beggar Bartimaeus is living in the darkness of his blindness. In a moment of desperation and inspiration, he cries out to Jesus who is passing by, undeterred by those in the crowd who call on him to be silent. Jesus restores his sight and tells him that he has been saved by his faith. Note that Bartimaeus throws aside his cloak, one of his most prized possessions, as he approaches Jesus. The gesture indicates his decision to change his life and throw in his lot with Jesus.

The message of Pope Francis in *Laudato Si'* is also a cry to the Lord. He is distressed by the destruction of the earth and the condition of the poor, but he is convinced that the generosity and solidarity of people can and will win out. The pope highlights the growing awareness that the earth is our common homeland, and of the concern for the common good. This should inspire all to live in harmony, to make sacrifices for our sisters and brothers, and to rebuild the home that God has given us. Our faith, and the faith of so many other believers throughout the world, should be a catalyst to help us confront the problems that afflict God's creation to resolve them for the benefit of all.

† Passages from *Laudato Si'* to Note:

Beginning in the middle of the last century and overcoming many difficulties, there has been a growing conviction that our planet is a homeland and that humanity is one people living in a

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common home. (164)

There is reason to hope that humanity at the dawn of the twenty-first century will be remembered for having generously shouldered its grave responsibilities. (165)

Any technical solution which science claims to offer will be powerless to solve the serious problems of our world if humanity loses its compass, if we lose sight of the great motivations which make it possible for us to live in harmony, to make sacrifices and to treat others well. (200)

The majority of people living on our planet profess to be believers. This should spur religions to dialogue among themselves for the sake of protecting nature, defending the poor, and building networks of respect and fraternity. (201)

All is not lost. Human beings, while capable of the worst, are also capable of rising above themselves, choosing again what is good, and making a new start . . . No system can completely suppress our openness to what is good, true and beautiful, or our God-given ability to respond to his grace at work deep in our hearts. (205)

Related Prayers of the Faithful

Option 1: That we learn to live our faith in a way that will benefit all our sisters and brothers and help restore the earth, our common home, let us pray to the Lord...

Option 2: That we might raise our voices of faith in a way that will challenge our leaders to show concern for the poor and for the earth, let us pray to the Lord...

Further Resources

Feedback: info@catholicclimatecovenant.org

Webpage: www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/resource/english-homily-help

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