

Integral Faith

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



Homily Helps and Petitions for the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle B (November 14, 2021)

Homily Helps

† Scripture Passages to Note:

Daniel 12: But the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, and those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever.

Psalms 16: You will show me the path to life, fullness of joys in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever.

Hebrews 10: (Christ) took his seat forever at the right hand of God; now he waits until his enemies are made his footstool.

Mark 13: Learn a lesson from the fig tree... Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

† Comments for the Day:

The passage from the Book of Daniel was written in a time of great distress. Yet the prophet conveys a vision of hope. The reading from Paul's letter to the Hebrews refers to a life-threatening conflict then paints a vision of God's victory. In Mark's gospel, Jesus likewise offers radical hope in the context of anxiety and insecurity.

Today we feel distress. In the U.S. we see a profound polarization of our society. Our institutions, and even our ideas about who we are as a nation, are at risk from multiple factors. The poor and immigrants are threatened by fear and racism, while our land and rivers are attacked by purveyors of greed and power. The Catholic Church is still reeling from the clerical sex abuse scandal. There is a climate change crisis and multiple international conflicts.

All this saps our energy and can leave us on the verge of despair. We need to hold up hope. The ancient words and images in scripture and our faith tradition still have power. But we also need contemporary images, stories, examples that inform and inspire. International youth movements addressing issues of justice, peace, and climate action offer us hope.

In the parable of the fig tree, Jesus is inviting us to hope in the future. Go for a walk, and look for God's message of hope and transformation in His creation around you.

This resource is provided by Catholic Climate Covenant in collaboration with the Integral Faith Team, a group of male and female religious, priests, and lay people dedicated to serving the Church.

† Passages from *Laudato Si'* to Note:

Although the post-industrial period may well be remembered as one of the most irresponsible in history, nonetheless 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)

At the end, we will find ourselves face to face with the infinite beauty of God, and be able to read with admiration and happiness the mystery of the universe, which with us will share in unending plenitude. Even now we are journeying towards the sabbath of eternity, the new Jerusalem, towards our common home in heaven. Jesus says: “I make all things new” (*Rev* 21:5). Eternal life will be a shared experience of awe, in which each creature, resplendently transfigured, will take its rightful place and have something to give those poor men and women who will have been liberated once and for all. (243)

In the meantime, we come together to take charge of this home which has been entrusted to us, knowing that all the good which exists here will be taken up into the heavenly feast. In union with all creatures, we journey through this land seeking God. Let us sing as we go. May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope. (244)

Related Prayers of the Faithful

Option 1: That the beauty of God’s creation and its fragility awaken within us a deeper, spiritual connection with the world and compel us to a moral responsibility to safeguard it, we pray to the Lord.....

Option 2: For scientists, environmental organizations, and independent media that are raising awareness of the gravity and urgency of the climate crisis, may they stir hope and mobilize others to take decisive action, we pray to the Lord...

Further Resources

Feedback: info@catholicclimatecovenant.org

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

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