

Integral Faith

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



Catholic Climate Covenantsm
Care for Creation. Care for the Poor.

Homily Resources and Petitions for the Third Sunday of Easter Cycle C (May 5, 2019)

Homily Helps

† Scripture passages to note:

Acts 5: "We gave you strict orders, did we not, to stop teaching in that name? Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching..."

"We must obey God rather than men. The God of our ancestors raised Jesus...God exalted him at his right hand as leader and savior to grant Israel repentance and forgiveness of sins. We are witnesses of these things..."

Psalms 30: You changed my mourning into dancing; O LORD, my God, forever will I give you thanks.

Revelation 5: They were countless in number, and they cried out in a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain..."

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, everything in the universe, cry out: "To the one who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor, glory and might, forever and ever."

Gospel of John: So he said to them, "Cast the net over the right side of the boat and you will find something." So they cast it, and were not able to pull it in because of the number of fish.

Jesus came over and took the bread and gave it to them, and in like manner the fish. This was now the third time Jesus was revealed to his disciples after being raised from the dead.

† Passages from *Laudato Si'* to note:

Worldwide, the ecological movement has made significant advances, thanks also to the efforts of many organizations of civil society. It is impossible here to mention them all, or to review the history of their contributions. But thanks to their efforts, environmental questions have increasingly found a place on public agendas and encouraged more far-sighted approaches. (#166)

The myopia of power politics delays the inclusion of a far-sighted environmental agenda within the overall agenda of governments...True statecraft is manifest when, in difficult times, we uphold high principles and think of the long-term common good. (#178)

New forms of cooperation and community organization can be encouraged in order to defend the interests of small producers and preserve local ecosystems from destruction. Truly, much can be done! (#180)

But if [politicians] are courageous, they will attest to their God-given dignity and leave behind a testimony of selfless responsibility. (#181)

Productive diversification offers the fullest possibilities to human ingenuity to create and innovate, while at the same time protecting the environment and creating more sources of employment. Such creativity would be a worthy expression of our most noble human qualities, for we would be striving intelligently, boldly and responsibly to promote a sustainable and equitable development within the context of a broader concept of quality of life. (#192)

Believers themselves must constantly feel challenged to live in a way consonant with their faith and not to contradict it by their actions. They need to be encouraged to be ever open to God's grace and to draw constantly from their deepest convictions about love, justice and peace. (#200)

† **Comment for the day:**

Jesus presented the people of his day with many a challenge, and in response he often encountered opposition and even rejection. However, in the light of his passion, death, and resurrection, the meaning of all he said and did took on its full significance. Our readings reflect this moment of victory over human fear and doubt. In the Gospel, Jesus feeds his disciples after they have brought in a huge haul of fish, anticipating the way he would sustain the Church in its mission to gather all people. Indeed, the reading from the Book of Revelation, we glimpse the end of history, when people of all nations will indeed be gathered in to sing the praises of the Lamb. Christ's victory has a wide embrace indeed, taking in and redeeming all creation. As a people who have glimpsed this Easter victory of our Lord, we ask ourselves how we care for one another and God's creation differently as a result.

Today our reading from the Book of Revelation reminds us that "every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, everything in the universe" praises God. Humans do it consciously, but every creature praises. The Sea of Tiberias, the fish caught in the nets, the fish and bread Jesus gave his disciples, the lambs and sheep Jesus used as metaphors — the air we breathe, the water we use, everything can glorify its Creator. Concern for all creation calls us to examine our lifestyles, our consumption patterns, and the sustainability of production methods used by our industries.

† **Related Prayers of the Faithful:**

Option 1: That individuals, nations, and industries will make decisions that protect Earth's lakes, seas, and oceans, thus protecting fish and all who depend on fish for food and livelihoods, let us pray to the Lord....

Option 2: That we may have the courage to speak out for the good of all, no matter what opposition we face, let us pray to the Lord....

Feedback: Info@CatholicClimateCovenant.org

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

Visit our webpage to sign up to receive these resources delivered to your email inbox each month.