

Integral Faith

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



Homily Helps and Petitions for the 5th Sunday of Easter, Cycle B (May 2, 2021)

Homily Helps

† Scripture Passages to Note:

Acts 9: Saul spoke out boldly in the name of the Lord. ... He also spoke and debated with the Hellenists, but they tried to kill him. ... The church throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria was ... being built up....

Psalm 22: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord.

1 John 3: Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

John 15: I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. ... Every branch in me that ... bears fruit he prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you. ... Without me you can do nothing.

† Comments for the Day:

Jesus' resurrection let loose in the human community a power of love. St. Paul experienced that. That power enables us to come together and boldly share the good news of God's love with others. A channel of that love calls us to speak out and act boldly with regard to the climate crisis that is threatening the life of many. It's one way we can show love for others and respect for life on earth. We will may attacked by the ignorant or indifferent for pressing that cause.

We are all part of a single vine both in faith and in our shared nature. We were created to bring forth great fruit on this planet, our common home. That is part of our mission, our function, our purpose. We are to care for life on our planet so the vital elixir of God's love will flow through our branch to others whom we encounter.

The reality of our love for creation and for all God's people is something that has to be evidenced "in deed and truth" by our action, our testimony, and even our choices when it comes to such things as clean water, air, plastics, what we eat (and throw away), and how we consume resources and energy. Caring for our common home should move us to support the efforts of our government to work with other nations in reversing the destructive direction in which our economies, industries, and ways of life are going.

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:

Beginning in the middle of the last century, ... there has been a growing conviction that our planet is a homeland and that humanity is one people living in a common home. An interdependent world ... motivates us to ensure that solutions are proposed from a global perspective and not simply to defend the interests of a few countries. Interdependence obliges us to think of *one world with a common plan*. (164)

Enforceable international agreements [such as the Paris Climate Accord] are urgently needed, since local authorities are not always capable of effective intervention. What is needed ... is an agreement on systems of governance for the whole range of so-called 'global commons.' (173, 174)

Concern for others, and the rejection of every form of self-centeredness and self-absorption, are essential if we truly wish to care for our brothers and sisters and for the natural environment. These attitudes also attune us to the moral imperative of assessing the impact of our every action and personal decision on the world around us. (208)

A person who could afford to spend and consume more but regularly uses less heating and wears warmer clothes, shows the kind of convictions and attitudes which help to protect the environment. There is a nobility in the duty to care for creation through little daily actions [that] reflect a generous and worthy creativity which brings out the best in human beings. (211)

Related Prayers of the Faithful

Option 1: That our bishops, priests, baptized persons and all politicians will take the climate crisis seriously and actively address it, let us pray to the Lord ...

Option 2: That we will all see God's presence in the temple of creation, in ourselves and in others as surely as we believe in Christ's presence in the Eucharist, and will revere God's presence there, let us pray to the Lord ...

Further Resources

Feedback: info@catholicclimatecovenant.org

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

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