

# Integral Faith

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



**Catholic Climate Covenant**<sup>sm</sup>  
Care for Creation. Care for the Poor.

## Homily Resources and Petitions for the The Ascension of the Lord Cycle C (June 2, 2019)

### Homily Helps

#### † Scripture passages to note:

**Acts 1:** "[Y]ou will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

**Psalms 47:** For king of all the earth is God; sing hymns of praise. God reigns over the nations, God sits upon his holy throne.

**Ephesians 1:** And [God] put all things beneath [Christ's] feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way.

**Luke 24:** "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem."

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

The rich heritage of Christian spirituality, the fruit of twenty centuries of personal and communal experience, has a precious contribution to make to the renewal of humanity. (#216)

May the power and the light of the grace we have received also be evident in our relationship to other creatures and to the world around us. (#221)

Through our worship of God, we are invited to embrace the world on a different plane. Water, oil, fire and colours are taken up in all their symbolic power and incorporated in our act of praise. The hand that blesses is an instrument of God's love and a reflection of the closeness of Jesus Christ, who came to accompany us on the journey of life. (#235)

#### † Comment for the day:

On this Feast of the Ascension of the Lord, we commemorate the event in which Jesus brought to a close his great work of salvation among us. In returning to the Father, he returns in triumph. Yet with his work complete, our work has just begun. Jesus commissions his disciples—and us—to be witnesses to all we have seen and heard, even to the ends of the Earth. Understandably, at first the disciples do not comprehend this charge. They are caught up in wonder, looking to the heavens, trying to take it all in. Then God's messengers jolt them awake: "Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky?" There is work to be done. Go forth and proclaim God's salvation even to the ends of the Earth!

Christ's work is in one sense complete and perfect, yet in another still unfolding as the members of his Church bring salvation to all the world. Perhaps the one additional insight *Laudato Si'* enjoins upon us is that the Scriptures call us to recognize that God's salvation embraces all creation. The renewal God promises is indeed universal in its scope.

† **Related Prayers of the Faithful:**

**Option 1:** That the love with which the Father loved Jesus will be in us, just as Jesus prayed, let us pray to the Lord....

**Option 2:** That our decisions will reflect our awareness that we are united with all humanity and all creation, let us pray to the Lord....

† **Sample Bulletin Notice:**

Pope Francis gives us thoughts to ponder this Easter season when he reminds us that "... each creature reflects something of God and has a message to convey to us, and ... Christ has taken unto himself this material world and now, risen, is intimately present to each being, surrounding it with his affection and penetrating it with his light." (*Laudato Si'* #221) Let us be grateful!

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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