

# Integral Faith

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



## Homily Helps and Petitions for the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Cycle B (August 15, 2021)

### Homily Helps

#### † Scripture Passages to Note:

**Revelation 11:** A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon beneath her feet ... Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have salvation and power come and the kingdom of our God.

**1 Corinthians 15:** The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

**Luke 1:** He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things and the rich he has sent away empty.

#### † Comments for the Day:

In Mary we find a metaphor for all humanity. In the dogma of Mary's Assumption we find an image for the whole creation that has finally reached the fullness of its beauty. On this day we reflect on how the woman clothed with the sun protects the child of her womb against the enemy and holds him toward the throne of God, an image of the universe transformed. There, all creation is made new in the promised reign of God.

How wonderful is this feast! The order of things is turned upside down as Mary sings her Magnificat. Her prayer celebrates the greatness of the Creator whereby all that seemed to be on top of the world is brought low and all that seemed to be at the lowest point is raised up to the crowning summit. All creation is brought back to its original blessing. This is a day when we do not assume that the work of re-creation is to be taken up only by others in other places and in other ways. Today is the day for us to commit ourselves to raise up what has fallen and to give nourishment to that which has become ravenous.

Pope Francis suggests that we, Christian people and indeed all people of good will, "sing as we go" and make this pilgrimage on earth an easier road to travel for those living in constant poverty and hunger. We can do this by reducing our consumption of natural resources and energy, and by evangelizing care for *all* of God's creation. Francis challenges us to take our cue from the One who remembered the great promise of mercy made to our ancestors in faith and that is still true today: That Christ, through whom all things were made, will bring all creation to its restoration by the hands of everyone of us who pledge ourselves to this work of healing and transformation.

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:

The natural environment is a collective good, the patrimony of all humanity and the responsibility of everyone.... That is why the New Zealand bishops asked what the commandment "Thou shalt not kill" means when "twenty percent of the world's population consumes resources at a rate that robs the poor nations and future generations of what they need to survive." (95)

In [Mary's] glorified body, together with the Risen Christ, part of creation has reached the fullness of its beauty. She treasures the entire life of Jesus in her heart and now understands the meaning of all things. Hence, we can ask her to enable us to look at this world with eyes of wisdom. (241)

Jesus says, "I make all things new." 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. (244)

### Related Prayers of the Faithful

**Option 1:** That we may see in Mary our own call to proclaim the greatness of the Lord by living lives of faithfulness and justice, let us pray to the Lord...

**Option 2:** That we may sing as we go, and that our struggles and concerns for this planet never take away the joy of our hope, let us pray to the Lord...

### Further Resources

**Feedback:** [info@catholicclimatecovenant.org](mailto:info@catholicclimatecovenant.org)

**Webpage:** <http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/resource/english-homily-help>

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