

# 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 Helps and Petitions for the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ – Cycle A (14 June 2020)

### Homily Helps

#### † Comment for the day:

On this Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, we reflect on our union with Christ and with one another. The Scripture readings for today invite us to be aware of our utter dependence on God, who feeds us both physically and spiritually. Every time we receive communion, we are reminded that the bread and wine we partake of are the body and blood of Christ. During this coronavirus pandemic, however, when social distancing guidelines prevent so many of us from gathering in person to celebrate Eucharist, it is good to remember that the Church itself is also the Body of Christ, and that, just as the Eucharistic bread and wine feed and nurture us, so too are we supported and fed by our relationships with one another.

Pope Francis, in *Laudato Si'*, encourages us to see how closely we are connected to one another and to all of God's creation. How we live our lives, how we order our society, how we structure our economies – all of these have profound effects on our brothers and sisters and on all of creation. We must not fall into the trap of seeing a conflict between care for creation and care for people – what hurts creation hurts people and vice versa. But the reverse is also true – by caring more for our Earth, we will be caring for our poor and vulnerable brothers and sisters as well.

#### † Scripture passages to note:

Deut 8: Do not forget the LORD, your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery...and fed you in the desert with manna, a food unknown to your fathers.

1 Cor 10: The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.

John 6: Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me.

## Homily Helps (cont.)

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

The human environment and the natural environment deteriorate together; we cannot adequately combat environmental degradation unless we attend to causes related to human and social degradation. In fact, the deterioration of the environment and of society affects the most vulnerable people on the planet.” (#48)

Today, however, we have to realize that a true ecological approach *always* becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear *both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor*. (#49) (emphasis in original)

A true “ecological debt” exists, particularly between the global north and south, connected to commercial imbalances with effect on the environment and the disproportionate use of natural resources by certain countries over long periods of time. (#50)

## Related Prayers of the Faithful

**Option 1:** May we grow in gratitude for all the ways in which God feeds us in body and spirit, we pray to the Lord.....

**Option 2:** May we open our ears to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor, we pray to the Lord....

## Further Resources

Feedback: [Info@CatholicClimateCovenant.org](mailto:Info@CatholicClimateCovenant.org)

Webpage: [www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/resource/english-homily-help](http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/resource/english-homily-help)

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