

Integral Faith

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



Homily Helps and Petitions for the 4th Sunday of Easter, Cycle A (3 May 2020)

Homily Helps

† Comment for the day:

Pope Francis notes that faith in individualism, unlimited progress, competition, consumerism, and the market are characteristics of our modern mindset. The values reflecting in today's readings stand in stark contrast with this faith in individualism. Peter reminds us that we are called to be patient in suffering for the sake of others, just as Jesus suffered for us. We are to model our lives on the example of the Good Shepherd, who provides everything necessary for the sheep. And in John's Gospel, Jesus proclaims that he has come to bring life in abundance for all, a key component of our efforts to serve God's Kingdom in the midst of this life.

Like those who heard the words of the apostles in the reading from Acts, we too must ask urgently: "What are we to do?" What are the core elements around which we structure our lives? Are our lifestyles built upon individualism and consumerism? Are we called to repent, to change, and to restore our relationships with God, ourselves, others and God's creation itself? Perhaps that restoration can involve cultivating a sense of awe, awe at God working in our lives and in the wonderful gift of creation. The race to have the most, the best, the latest consumer goods leaves little room for awe. Rabbi Abraham Heschel wrote, "Forfeit your sense of awe and the universe becomes a marketplace for you."

† Scripture passages to note:

Acts 2: What are we to do, my brothers?... Repent and be baptized... Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.

Psalms 23: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

1st Peter 2: If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his footsteps.

John 10: I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.

Homily Helps (cont.)

This resource is provided by the Integral Faith Team in collaboration with the [Catholic Climate Covenant](#), the [Global Catholic Climate Movement](#), the [Association of U.S. Catholic Priests](#), and the [Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center](#)

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

Obsession with a consumerist lifestyle, above all when few people are capable of maintaining it, can only lead to violence and mutual destruction. (#204)

If we can overcome individualism, we will truly be able to develop a different lifestyle and bring about significant changes in society. (#208)

[Environmental education] tends now to include a critique of the "myths" of a modernity grounded in a utilitarian mindset (individualism, unlimited progress, competition, consumerism, the unregulated market). (208)

Related Prayers of the Faithful

Option 1: That we might work to provide life with dignity for all, let us pray to the Lord....

Option 2: That we might follow in the footsteps of Jesus, willing to suffer and sacrifice for our sisters and brothers, and for our earth, let us pray to the Lord....

Further Resources

Feedback: Info@CatholicClimateCovenant.org

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

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