

# Integral Faith

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



## Homily Helps and Petitions for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, Cycle A (2 February 2020)

### Homily Helps

#### † Comment for the day:

Today's reading from the Gospel of Luke tells the story of a remarkable intergenerational encounter, between the infant Jesus and the elderly Simeon. When Jesus is presented in the temple by Mary and Joseph, Simeon immediately recognizes him as the long-awaited anointed one, the "light of revelation to the Gentiles and glory for your people Israel." How was Simeon able to see Jesus so clearly? Luke tells us that Simeon "came in the Spirit" into the temple; it was through the guidance of the Holy Spirit that Simeon was able to see with the eyes of faith. Simeon is content in his old age, knowing that he has seen the future in the person of the savior Jesus.

Each generation can learn something from such an encounter. A younger generation can benefit from the experience and wisdom of the elders; older people can benefit from the promise and hope of the young. Both are needed to address the ecological crisis facing our common home. Pope Francis rightly points out that the common good includes not only the poor and vulnerable living today, but also future generations yet to come who will inherit the Earth from older generations. We who are living today, and who have been given the gift of sight to see the needs of our common home, owe it to those who will come to leave them a world in which they can thrive.

#### † Scripture passages to note:

**Malachi:** Thus says the Lord God: Lo, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me.

**Hebrews:** [H]e had to become like his brothers and sisters in every way, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest before God to expiate the sins of the people.

**Luke:** [M]y eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel."

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

The common good is the sum of those conditions of social life which allow social groups and their individual members relatively thorough and ready access to their own fulfillment. (#156)

The notion of the common good also extends to future generations. (#159)

## Homily Helps (cont.)

Doomsday predictions can no longer be met with irony or disdain. We may well be leaving to coming generations debris, desolation and filth. (#161)

## Related Prayers of the Faithful

**Option 1:** That we learn to extend the notion of the common good to all our sisters and brothers, to those who will come after us, and to our planet, let us pray to the Lord....

**Option 2:** That like our all good and all merciful God, we reach out to those who live in poverty, to the marginalized and to the vulnerable, let us 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)

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