Homily Helps, Petitions, and Bulletin Notices for the 3rd Sunday of Lent, Cycle A (19 March 2017)

Homily Helps

† Comment for the day:

Water is essential to life. No water, no life. When we do not have water, we get thirsty and grumble. Commentators on today's circumstances often project that the next major wars will be over control of water. Already in places like Darfur, Israel, and rural Syria, conflicts over water and livelihood have ignited larger conflagrations. By contrast, Moses and Jesus provided water for physically and spiritually thirsty people. Likewise, it is important that we who have so much use the resources and know-how at our disposal to assure that water – both physical and spiritual – be available to all those who dwell in our common home.

† Scripture passages to note:

Exodus 17: In those days in their thirst for water the people grumbled against Moses. … The Lord answered Moses, 'Go over there in front of the people… Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink

Psalm response: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Romans 5: Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

John 4: A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.'… If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.'

† Passages from Laudato Si' to note:

Ecological culture cannot be reduced to a series of urgent and partial responses to the immediate problems of pollution, environmental decay and the deletion of natural resources. There needs to be a distinctive way of looking at things, a way of thinking, policies, an educational program, a lifestyle and a spirituality that together generate resistance to the assault of the technocratic paradigm. (#111)

Yet we can once more broaden our vision. We have the freedom needed to limit and direct technology; we can put it at the service of another type of progress, one that is healthier, more human, more social, more integral. (#112)

People no longer seem to believe in a happy future (#113)
† Passages from *Laudato Si’* to note (cont.):

All of this shows the urgent need for us to move forward in a bold cultural revolution… We do need to slow down and look at reality in a different way. (#114)

**Related Prayers of the Faithful**

**Option 1:** That God may give us the grace to serve those who thirst for meaning, for faith, for justice, and for the basic necessities of life, let us pray to the Lord…

**Option 2:** That all human beings may learn to share the limited resources of earth, let us pray to the Lord…

**Further Resources**

Feedback:  IntegralFaithForLife@gmail.com

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

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