

# Integral Faith

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



## Homily Helps, Petitions, and Bulletin Notices for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Cycle A (7 May 2017)

### 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?

#### † 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.

**1<sup>st</sup> 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.

#### † 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). (#210)

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.

## 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: [IntegralFaithForLife@gmail.com](mailto:IntegralFaithForLife@gmail.com)

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

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