

Integral Faith

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



Homily Helps, Petitions, and Bulletin Notices for the 5th Sunday of Easter, Cycle A (14 May 2017)

Homily Helps

† Comment for the day:

In today's Gospel the disciples are concerned that they have not yet mastered the lessons that Jesus has given them. He makes it clear, however, that there is no manual for them to follow; rather, he himself is the blueprint for the work that they are to do to carry on his mission. He is the way, the truth, and the light. They will do the works that he does if they believe in him, and their works will be even greater! The secret? Disinterested concern for others, and the rejection of every form of self-centeredness and self-absorption. Jesus dedicated his life to others, and he expects the same from his followers. Like the Apostles in Acts, we must be willing to change our attitudes and our communities so as to live like Jesus did in our day to day lives.

In his first pastoral letter, Peter challenges his readers to be living stones of the Church, that is, to allow themselves to be built into a dwelling place for God's own Spirit. What would this then look like? In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis offers us a vision that encourages, motivates, nourishes and gives meaning to our individual and communal lives. In contrast to the vapid consumerism of our day, he leads us to see that the possession of many things does not make us happy. Indeed, if we follow his lead, we can create a lifestyle that is both prophetic and contemplative.

† Scripture passages to note:

Acts 6: It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table. Brothers, select from among you seven reputable men, filled with the Spirit and wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this task.

Peter 2: [L]ike living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house.

John 14: "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life."

John 14: Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these.

† Passages from *Laudato Si'* to note:

Christian spirituality proposes an alternative understanding of the quality of life, and encourages a prophetic and contemplative lifestyle, one capable of deep enjoyment free of the obsession with consumption. We need to take up an ancient lesson, found in different religious traditions and also in the Bible. It is the conviction that "less is more". (#222)

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.

Homily Helps (cont.)

† Passages from *Laudato Si'* to note (cont.):

Disinterested concern for others, and the rejection of every form of self-centeredness and self-absorption, are essential if we truly wish to care for our brothers and sisters and for the natural environment. (#208)

A commitment this lofty cannot be sustained by doctrine alone, without a spirituality capable of inspiring us, without an interior impulse which encourages, motivates, nourishes and gives meaning to our individual and communal activity. (#216)

Related Prayers of the Faithful

Option 1: That in the spirit of Jesus we might reject all forms of self-centeredness and live to promote the well-being of all people and of the Earth, let us pray to the Lord....

Option 2: That we might foster a lifestyle that is centered not on material things, but on the quality of our relationships, let us pray to the Lord....

Further Resources

Feedback: IntegralFaithForLife@gmail.com

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

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