Integral Faith

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

Homily Helps and Petitions for the
3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle A (22 January 2017)

Homily Helps

† Comment for the day:

The Scripture readings from today's Mass invite us to consider the "bigger picture", the vision that can sustain and nurture us in all situations. In the reading from Isaiah, the prophet reflects on those in the northern kingdom of Israel who suffered the anguish of invasion and separation. Their situation was dire, but God breaks the yoke of the oppressor and shines a great light on the people. In the passage from Corinthians, Paul challenges his readers to live according to the vision he has offered them of life in Christ Jesus, a vision that allows them to come together, dispel division and live in agreement. In the Gospel Jesus enters the daily life of his future disciples and asks them to follow him and be fishers of people. His vision will help them understand what is needed to become builders of the kingdom that will change the world.

In *Laudato Si'* the Pope is also concerned about promoting a vision, one that will help to direct our efforts to address the crises that we face in our world today. Francis feels that consumerism has clouded our vision, closing us in on ourselves, causing us to focus on our own needs and wants. In contrast, he emphasizes that everything is interconnected, and underlines the need for us to promote the common good. A paradigm based solely on economics and self-interest will not provide what is necessary to deal with our current plight. Rather, we must employ the resources available from all fields of knowledge to help us create a more integral and integrating vision for us and for all of God's creation.

† Scripture passages to note:

Isaiah 9: There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish…The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light…For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, and the rod of their oppressor, you have broken…

I Corinthians 1: I appeal to you, brothers and sisters…that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you…

Matthew 4: Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers…and said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of people."

† Passages from Laudato Si' to note:

It cannot be emphasized enough how everything is interconnected. (#138)

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.):

We urgently need a humanism capable of bringing together the different fields of knowledge, including economics, in the service of a more integral and integrating vision. (#141)

A consumerist vision of human beings, encouraged by the mechanisms of today's globalized economy, has a levelling effect on cultures, diminishing the immense variety which is the heritage of all humanity. (#144)

An integral ecology is inseparable from the notion of the common good, a central and unifying principle of social ethics. (#156)

Related Prayers of the Faithful

Option 1: That we might raise our eyes above private wants and needs, and focus on God's vision, which will allow us to promote all people and protect our Mother Earth, let us pray to the Lord….

Option 2: That our lives might be a light to all those searching for new ways to build God's Kingdom in our midst, let us pray to the Lord….

Further Resources

Feedback: IntegralFaithForLife@gmail.com

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

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