

Integral Faith

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



Homily Helps, Petitions, and Bulletin Notices for the Pentecost – Mass during the day, Cycles A, B, C (4 June 2017)

Homily Helps

† Comment for the day:

In this passage from the Gospel of John which we read every year at Pentecost, Jesus breathes on the disciples and gifts them with the Holy Spirit. In the reading from Acts, the Holy Spirit descends upon the disciples and impels them forth to proclaim the Good News. The responsorial psalm declares that when God sends the Spirit upon his people, all things are renewed on the earth. And in his letter to the Corinthians, Paul reminds his readers that the gift of the Spirit is manifested in each of them for the common good of all.

Jesus sends his disciples out into the world, and his Spirit abiding in them, empowers them to overcome their self-centeredness and transcend their limitations. When we look around at our world today, we see that this self-centeredness continues to be a preoccupation of humanity; advertisers and politicians even appeal to it and encourage it. Meanwhile our readings for Pentecost impel us to move beyond ourselves, just as the disciples moved beyond themselves. It is precisely this summons to move beyond ourselves that Pope Francis appeals to in *Laudato Si'*. The Gospel does empower us to transcend set habits and lifestyles. The vocation at the core of our relationship with Jesus does involve sharing his own care for our sisters and brothers and for God's magnificent creation. That vocation is not optional, but the determination and confidence to pursue it can only come from God. We need to be open like the disciples finally were when the Holy Spirit swept them up, so that we, too, can proclaim God's truth in the language of our own lives.

† Scripture passages to note:

Acts 2: And they were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim. [And those present asked] ...how does each of us hear them in his native language?

Psalm 104: When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

1st Corinthians 12: To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.

John 20: Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit..."

† Passages from *Laudato Si'* to note:

The current global situation engenders a feeling of instability and uncertainty, which in turn becomes a seedbed for collective selfishness. (#204)

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 are able to take an honest look at ourselves, to acknowledge our deep dissatisfaction, and to embark on new paths to authentic freedom. (#205)

We are always capable of going out of ourselves towards the other. (#208)

Christians have not always appropriated and developed the spiritual treasures bestowed by God upon the Church, where the life of the spirit is not dissociated from the body or from nature or from worldly realities, but lived in and with them, in communion with all that surrounds us. (#216)

Living out our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience. (#217)

Related Prayers of the Faithful

Option 1: That the gift of the Spirit at Pentecost might inspire all of us to share our talents in promoting the good of all, let us pray to the Lord....

Option 2: That we might encourage one another to find ways, both large and small, to change our habits and create a new lifestyle truly protects God's magnificent Earth, let us pray to the Lord....

Further Resources

Feedback: IntegralFaithForLife@gmail.com

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

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