

Integral Faith

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



Homily Helps and Petitions for the 6th Sunday of Easter, Cycle B (May 5, 2024)

Homily Helps

† Scripture Passages:

Acts 10: When Cornelius met Peter, he fell at his feet and paid Peter homage. ... Peter said, ... I see that God shows no partiality. In every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him.

Ps. 98: The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

1 John 4: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him.

John 15: Jesus said to his disciples: ... Remain in my love ... so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete. ... I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain.

† Comments for the Day:

The Father sent Jesus to all of us, without partiality, so people of all nations might accept one another and act together to enable life to flourish on our planet. Every one of us is responsible. We are all part of the one human family. Our way of life should not have negative impact on others. Joy and life are meant to be abundant among all of us. We share a single home.

Life requires a good environment to flourish. We care about our neighborhood and are rightly upset when factors make it unhealthy. When that happens and we know it, we not only should but must act. On a larger scale, the whole planet is our neighborhood and everyone on earth is a neighbor. Being a good neighbor is a major part of love. God is love and we are called to love.

In this Easter time when our sense of Christ risen is alive in us, we each need to make sure that our way of life takes good care of our environment, not just beautiful flowers. Good air, water, and food is essential not just for ourselves but for all of our brothers and sisters. We know how our environment is behaving. The way is threatening us all if we do not care about it. If we address the problem together and act on it, all of us and our planet will be better for the years ahead. If necessary, we need to press our political leaders and servants – in town, county, state, or/and nation.

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.

† Passages from *Laudato Si'*:

‘Time is greater than space.’ We are always more effective when we generate processes rather than holding on to positions of power. True statecraft is manifest when ... we uphold high principles and think of the long term common good. (#178)

Cooperatives are being developed.... Local individuals and groups can make a real difference. ... At times ... public pressure has to be exerted in order to bring about decisive political action. Society through nongovernmental organizations and intermediate groups, must put pressure on governments. ... Unless citizens control political power ... it will not be possible to control damage to the environment. (#179)

Each country or region has its own problems and limitations. It is also true that political realism may call for transitional measures and technologies, so long as these are accompanied by the gradual framing and acceptance of binding commitments. At the same time, on the national and local levels, much still needs to be done, such as promoting ways of conserving energy. (#180)

In the absence of pressure from the public and from civic institutions, political authorities will always be reluctant to intervene, all the more when urgent needs must be met. To take up these responsibilities and the costs they entail, politicians will inevitably clash with the mindset of politics. But if they are courageous, they will attest to their God-given dignity and leave behind a testimony of selfless responsibility. A healthy politics is sorely needed, capable of reforming and coordinating institutions, promoting best practices and overcoming undue pressure and bureaucratic inertia. (#181)

Related Prayers of the Faithful

Option 1: That God’s love will strengthen individuals and communities to know their importance and the power of their working together to care for Mother Earth, our Common Home, let us pray to the Lord. ...

Option 2: That our Creator will pour divine love into the hearts and minds of all without partiality so that we might all work together to bear fruit and help all humankind to find abundant life everywhere on Mother Earth, let us pray to the Lord. ...

Further Resources

Feedback: info@catholicclimatecovenant.org

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

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