

# Integral Faith

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



## Homily Helps and Petitions for the The Solemnity of Saints Peter & Paul, Apostles, Cycle C (June 29, 2025)

### Homily Helps

#### † Scripture Passages to Note:

**Acts 12:** and when he saw that this was pleasing to the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also.

**Psalms 34:** Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the stalwart one who takes refuge in him.

**2 Timothy 4:** The Lord will rescue me from every evil threat and will bring me safe to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory forever and ever. Amen

**Matthew 16:** When Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

#### † Comments for the Day:

Peter and Paul are our ancestors in the faith who belong not only to the early church but to the ongoing history of Christianity. Their doctrinal contributions, pastoral leadership, missionary zeal, and heroic examples form part of the foundational principles of Christianity. We remember them for the most vital role they played in shaping the Christian church. They succeeded because they knew who Jesus was to them – their all. While the temptation to trust in ourselves can be strong, we are encouraged to learn to trust in God. This trust should lead us to play active roles in promoting love amongst all people and care for the environment. As Pope Francis noted in *Laudato Si'*, we should be responding to the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth. What we do makes a difference. We must decide the kind of difference we want to make.

Speaking about deciding the kind of difference we want to make, the reading from Acts notes how Herod was prompted not by a desire to promote justice or the common good but to please the Jews. We need to be wary of following the crowd if we want to grow in our spiritual life and our quest for sustainable living. The reading from Matthew reminds us of the importance of knowing the Lord after the example of Peter and Paul. The answer we give as to who Jesus is to us will determine whether we are rooted in God or not.

#### † Passages from *Laudato Si'* to Note:

Furthermore, when media and the digital world become omnipresent, their influence can stop people from learning how to live wisely, to think deeply and to love generously. In this context,

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the great sages of the past run the risk of going unheard amid the noise and distractions of an information overload. Efforts need to be made to help these media become sources of new cultural progress for humanity and not a threat to our deepest riches. True wisdom, as the fruit of self-examination, dialogue and generous encounter between persons, is not acquired by a mere accumulation of data which eventually leads to overload and confusion, a sort of mental pollution. (47)

The harmony between the Creator, humanity and creation as a whole was disrupted by our presuming to take the place of God and refusing to acknowledge our creaturely limitations. (66)

In the meantime, economic powers continue to justify the current global system where priority tends to be given to speculation and the pursuit of financial gain, which fail to take the context into account, let alone the effects on human dignity and the natural environment. Here we see how environmental deterioration and human and ethical degradation are closely linked. Many people will deny doing anything wrong because distractions constantly dull our consciousness of just how limited and finite our world really is. (56)

### Related Prayers of the Faithful

**Option 1:** That our celebration of saints Peter and Paul will prompt us to be better stewards of creation, let us pray to the Lord ...

**Option 2:** That we might learn to be satisfied with little, so that our life of sobriety will allow us to be generous with our sisters and brothers, let us pray to the Lord...

### Further Resources

**Feedback:** [info@catholicclimatecovenant.org](mailto:info@catholicclimatecovenant.org)

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

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