

Integral Faith

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



Homily Helps and Petitions for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C (August 10, 2025)

Homily Helps

† Scripture Passages to Note:

Hebrews 11: Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen.

Luke 12: "Be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding...Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival."

Comments for the Day:

In this Jubilee year in which we are encouraged to be pilgrims of hope in the world, the gospel passage for today tells the story of servants who were left in charge of their master's household. Such a household would include not only people but also animals, land, and goods. In other words, these servants were pressed to care for the household and for one another. By caring for the common good we are, ultimately, caring for ourselves and truly worshipping God.

Jesus exhorts to his disciples – and us: "Be prepared." We are told not to put off our duty, thinking that we will have time to accomplish it later. With each generation we learn more and more about the household of God. Today we have come to recognize the enormity of this household, God's earthy creation, as well as our connectedness with it and oversight of its forcefulness and fragility.

Each step calls us to refashion our understanding of and responsibility for that household. This includes addressing the crisis of climate change, which is impacting all life that is sustained by creation. As Pope Leo XIV reminds us: This is the missionary spirit that must animate us; not closing ourselves off in our small groups, nor feeling superior to the world. We are called to offer God's love to everyone - the love that God has for us, to the offering of himself without reserve and without calculation - to achieve that unity which does not cancel out differences but values the personal history of each person and the social and religious culture of every people.

Like the servants in the gospel story, we have been entrusted with this wondrous household by the master himself. This should both reassure us and humble us at the same time. We have been deemed trustworthy and capable of the task of caring for creation. As trustworthy and capable servants, we are responsible for safeguarding a treasure trove that is not ours.

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.

Pope Leo XIV, following in the footsteps of Pope Francis, encourages us: With the light and the strength of the Holy Spirit, let us build a Church founded on God's love, a sign of unity, a missionary Church that opens its arms to the world, proclaims the word, allows itself to be made "restless" by history, and becomes a leaven of harmony for humanity.

Each one of us, and all of us together as a people, are called through our baptism to build God's house in fraternal communion, in the harmony of the Spirit, in the coexistence of diversity. In the words of Saint Augustine: "The Church consists of all those who are in harmony with their brothers and sisters and who love their neighbor".

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

The creation accounts in the book of Genesis...suggest that human life is grounded in three fundamental and closely intertwined relationships: with God, with our neighbor and with the earth itself. According to the Bible, these three vital relationships have been broken, both outwardly and within us. This rupture is sin [and includes] attacks on nature. (66)

This responsibility for God's earth means that human beings, endowed with intelligence, must respect the laws of nature and the delicate equilibria existing between the creatures of this world...The laws found in the Bible dwell on relationships, not only among individuals but also with other living beings. (68)

[A]ll of us are united by unseen bonds and together form a kind of universal family, a sublime communion which fills us with a sacred, affectionate and humble respect. (89)

Related Prayers of the Faithful

Option 1: That we understand our role to care for God's household, his earthly creation, as both a unique privilege and a solemn responsibility, let us pray to the Lord.

Option 2: That we will be ever more conscious of the gift that we have been given to care for and provide for all, as well as for the coming generations, let us pray to the Lord.

Further Resources

Feedback: info@catholicclimatecovenant.org

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

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