

Integral Faith

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



Catholic Climate Covenant[™]
Care for Creation. Care for the Poor.

Homily Helps and Petitions for the 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle A (25 January 2026)

Homily Helps

† Scripture passages to note:

Isaiah 8:23-9:3: There is no gloom where but now there was distress.... The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.... For the yoke that burdened them, and the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster, you have smashed....

Psalms 27:1,4,13-14: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear? ... I believe that I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord with courage...

I Corinthians 1:10-13, 17: I appeal to you, brothers and sisters ... that all of you agree in what you say, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose.

Matthew 4:12-23: Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand". As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers ... and said to them, "Come after me and I will make you fishers of people." At once they left their nets and followed him.

† Passages from *Laudato Si'* to note:

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

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)

† Comment for the day:

Today's Scripture readings invite us to consider the "bigger picture", the vision that can sustain and nurture us and all our fellow creatures in all problematic situations. The prophet Isaiah reflects on those in the northern kingdom of Israel who suffered the anguish of invasion and separation. Their situation was dire, but God broke the yoke of the oppressor and turned a great light on the people.

Paul challenged his Corinthian readers to live according to the vision of life in Christ Jesus he offered them, a vision that allowed them and us to come together, to dispel division and to live in agreement. In the Gospel Jesus entered the daily life of his future disciples and asked them to follow him and become fishers of people – in short, apostles, missionaries. His vision helped those fishing people to understand what is needed to become builders of the kingdom that changed their world.

Now Jesus is challenging us. All these scriptures apply to us, in our world today. Jesus continues to be present and calling us to follow him and do now what he and his apostles did then.

In *Laudato Si'* Pope Francis was concerned about promoting a vision that will help direct our efforts to address the crises that we all face in today's world. Francis teaches that consumerism has clouded our vision, closing us in on ourselves, causing us to focus tightly on our own needs and wants. In contrast, he emphasizes that everything is interconnected – all of us, all the peoples of the world, all elements and living things on our planet. He underlined the need for us to promote the common good, to undertake all that is needed to bring us and all living things together to make things better. Now Pope Leo has the call.

A paradigm based solely on economics and self-interest will not provide what is necessary to deal with our current and continuing global plight. Rather, we must employ the resources available from all fields of knowledge, science, agriculture, medicine, etc. to help us create a more integral and integrating vision for us and for all of God's creation.

Are we on that track? Are we seeing the light? Are we fearful or hopeful, courageous, and motivated to give special attention to the work of our Creator? Are we stuck in our little boats with our nets or are we working with others in our local community and pitching in on a global scale? Are we polarized, competitive, and divided looking out mainly for ourselves, or are we determined to collaborate with others to make things better? Are we paying attention to our U.S. Catholic Climate Covenant work (<https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/>) and to the global Laudato Si' Movement (<https://laudatosimovement.org/>)? Check them out if you need inspiration.

Related Prayers of the Faithful

Option 1: That we will raise our eyes and hearts above private wants and needs so we will focus on God's vision and protect the Earth, our common home, let us pray to the Lord....

Option 2: That our lives might be a light partnering us with all those searching for new ways to build up God's Kingdom on our planet, our common home, let us pray to the Lord....

Further Resources

Feedback: Info@CatholicClimateCovenant.org

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

Visit our webpage to sign up to receive these resources delivered to your email inbox each month.