

# Integral Faith

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



## Homily Helps and Petitions for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, (March 22, 2026)

### Homily Helps

#### † Scripture Passages to Note:

**John 11** Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

**Psalms 130** I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.

#### Comments for the Day:

We are coming to the end of the Lenten season - a time of waiting and anticipation but with a different feel from Advent. In Advent we wait for the birth of Jesus. In Lent we repent of our sins and wait for the time when Jesus will die and return to life after 3 days. This waiting is not full of the joy of Advent. It is a time of reflection and repentance. A time of wonder. A time of sacrifice. A time of sorrow. A time of hope. In love we wait. God's love surrounds us even in times of grief and loneliness.

Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus were waiting too. Their beloved brother had died and it seemed to them that Jesus didn't care enough to come before Lazarus' death. They knew of the healing power of Jesus and had thought Jesus would come when He heard about Lazarus' illness. Like us, as we wait and pray over our loved ones, Mary and Martha confronted Jesus - "where were you when we needed you? Our brother would not have died if you would have come!" They had waited with hope and that hope was dashed when Lazarus died.

However, hope has a way of going around fear and unbelief. Hope has a way of making any time of waiting disappear. A way of light in the darkness. Martha berates Jesus for not coming but also acknowledges who Jesus is when He tells her that He is the truth and the light of the world. Jesus also shows His humanity when He weeps at the tomb of His friend. Jesus is there because of love and that love never fails. Jesus calls out for Lazarus to rise from his tomb of death. Jesus calls Lazarus into the light of life, just as He calls us today to believe in who He is. Jesus calls us over the tumult. We answer Yes!

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'* to Note:

How wonderful is the certainty that each human life is not adrift in the midst of hopeless chaos, in a world ruled by pure chance or endlessly recurring cycles! The Creator can say to each one of us: “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you” (*Jer* 1:5). We were conceived in the heart of God, and for this reason “each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary” (65)

Jesus took up the biblical faith in God the Creator, emphasizing a fundamental truth: God is Father (cf. *Mt* 11:25). In talking with his disciples, Jesus would invite them to recognize the paternal relationship God has with all his creatures. With moving tenderness he would remind them that each one of them is important in God’s eyes: “Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God” (*Lk* 12:6). “Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them” (*Mt* 6:26). (96)

### Related Prayers of the Faithful

**Option 1:** That we might love like Jesus. To see our fellow human beings as part of our family. To believe that through Jesus there is always life ...

**Option 2:** That our faith will be strengthened by our Creator. That we will truly believe in Jesus as the resurrection and the life and realize our waiting is over ...

### 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)

**Information:** Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si'* of the Holy Father Francis on Care for our Common Home

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