

# Integral Faith

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



## Homily Helps and Petitions for the Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Cycle A (21 June 2026)

### Homily Helps

#### † Scripture passages to note:

Jer 20: [T]o you I have entrusted my cause. Sing to the LORD, praise the LORD, for he has rescued the life of the poor.

Psalm 69: Let the heavens and the earth praise him, the seas and whatever moves in them.

Rom 5: The gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one-man Jesus Christ overflow for the many.

Matt 10: Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

#### † Comment for the day:

God's saving mercy is unending and boundless. Today's Scripture readings invite us to reflect on God's infinite love and to trust in it. Jeremiah recounts how God rescued him from his enemies and witnesses to us the necessity of entrusting ourselves to God. In the face of the many challenges confronting us today, especially those highlighted by Pope Francis in *Laudato Si'*, it is helpful to remember that God is in charge, and he will help us if we entrust our cause to him. The psalmist reminds us to join with creation in hymns of gratitude and praise. St. Paul notes how God's mercy is so much greater than our offenses, and so by entrusting ourselves to Christ, there is hope for reconciliation and healing in our broken world. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus reminds us of how the Father cares for even the smallest detail of our lives, and for the life of all of His creation.

As humans, we are worth more than many sparrows, which is saying a lot since God has pledged his love for all creation. The fact that humans are precious in the sight of God is emphasized throughout the Scriptures. In Jeremiah, we read, "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you" (Jer 1:5), and in Isaiah, "I have engraved you on the palms of my hands" (Isa 49:16). The book of Wisdom states that "the souls of the virtues are in the hands of God" (Wis 3:1). Therefore, before we were born, at our birth,

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during our life, and after our death, we are precious to God. We have a particular responsibility for both body and soul, for both the material and spiritual dimensions of this earthly life. We should not shirk this responsibility, though we could be tempted to do so in the face of the magnitude of the ecological and social crises confronting us today. If we walk in faith, confident of God's mercy and acknowledging before others his presence in our lives, he will intercede for us and sanctify our efforts on behalf of creation and the poor.

## Homily Helps (cont.)

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

Human life is grounded in three fundamental and closely intertwined relationships: with God, with our neighbor and with the earth itself. ... 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. (#65)

We must forcefully reject the notion that our being created in God's image and given dominion over the earth justifies absolute domination over other creatures. (#67)

There can be no renewal of our relationship with nature without a renewal of humanity itself. There can be no ecology without an adequate anthropology. (#118)

## Related Prayers of the Faithful

**Option 1:** May we grow in our relationships with God, with one another and with all of God's creation, we pray to the Lord....

**Option 2:** That we may show our gratitude for God's saving mercy by how we show mercy to one another and how we care for God's creation, we 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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