

Homily Helps and Petitions for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A (October 25, 2026)

Homily Helps

† Scripture Passages to Note:

Exodus 22: "You shall not molest or oppress an alien ... You shall not wrong any widow or orphan. . . I will surely hear their cry."

1 Thessalonians 1: For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth . . . in every place your faith in God has gone forth.

Matthew 22: "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"

† Comments for the Day:

Recent articles warn us of the danger of toxic clutter: the ordinary, steady din of traffic, compounded by the blast from jet engines; the deafening roar of music delivered directly into our ears; and other manifestations that cumulatively induce us to grow deaf to other, less cantankerous resonances. The steady accumulation of noise pollution and the distress this cacophony propounds practically eradicate our ability to hear and truly listen. And listening is essential to authentic communication. How can we truly relate to others if we lose the ability to listen?

If we are indifferent to others or have little or no interest in relating to them, we have no hope of hearing what they are trying to communicate. To be able to hear the cry of the poor, or the lament of the planet, we must have the ability to listen attentively, to actively pursue what ordinary noise mutes or makes more difficult to distinguish.

Jesus learned and taught how to listen actively. He learned to search eyes and to notice behavior. He reflected. He was deeply attentive to the word of God. He found space for quiet and for time alone. He developed a personal sensitivity to people that only comes from actively listening.

In that same vein, Pope Francis reminds us that relationships are key to our growth, both physically and spiritually: with God, with other people, and with other creatures that are part of God's creation. Developing these relationships and building community require really listening to one another. Good listening increases the trust, openness, and understanding that create authentic community. People who truly listen to one another are drawn together in a special bond. Effective listening can promote spiritual growth toward wholeness – and holiness.

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:**

This contemplation of creation allows us to discover in each thing a teaching which God wishes to hand on to us, since “for the believer, to contemplate creation is to hear a message, to listen to a paradoxical and silent voice.” (85)

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)

We should not think that political efforts or the force of law will be sufficient to prevent actions which affect the environment because, when the culture itself is corrupt and objective truth and universally valid principles are no longer upheld, then laws can only be seen as arbitrary impositions or obstacles to be avoided. (123)

Nature is filled with words of love, but how can we listen to them amid constant noise, interminable & nerve- wracking distractions, or the cult of appearances?... An integral ecology includes taking time to recover a serene harmony with creation. (225)

Related Prayers of the Faithful

Option 1: That the Spirit will help us grow in compassion for others to lead us to care for the most vulnerable, and for the earth on which all life depends, let us pray to the Lord...

Option 2: That the Spirit guide our choices, so that we prioritize care for the earth, our common home, let us pray to the Lord...

Further Resources

Feedback: info@catholicclimatecovenant.org

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

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