

# Integral Faith

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



## Homily Helps and Petitions for the 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle A (July 2, 2023)

### Homily Helps

#### † Scripture Passages to Note:

**2 Kings 4:** "Let us arrange a little room on the roof ... so that when he comes to us he can stay there." Sometime later Elisha arrived and stayed in the room overnight.... Elisha promised, "This time next year you will be fondling a baby son."

**Psalm 89:** "My kindness is established forever."

**Romans 6:** We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

**Matthew 10:** "Whoever receives you receives me, ... And whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones ... will surely not lose his reward."

#### † Comments for the Day:

The readings for today center on hospitality and its rewards. The Shunamite woman opens her home for the prophet Elisha and is rewarded with a child. The baptized are promised a place in the new life brought about by the passion and resurrection of Christ. Jesus promises that whoever offers hospitality to the "little ones," the poorest and most vulnerable, will be rewarded.

Pope Francis urges us to do what we can to open our hearts and resources to the poor and vulnerable who live in areas where land, water, culture, and basic livelihood have been destroyed by corporate greed. This devastation then spreads across the earth, our common home, forcing the migration of the people who are the least agents of climate change. Africa, for example has been responsible for a mere 3 percent of greenhouse gases since 1900; yet millions there are suffering from climate-induced drought, famine, and disease.

This week, let us recognize how our first-world lifestyles contribute incrementally and collectively to climate change, as Pope Francis underscores in *Laudato Si'*. But may we also reflect on our first-world blessings that can be shared in hospitality to those most impacted by climate change.

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

Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day.... Many of the poor live in areas particularly affected by phenomena

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related to warming and their means of subsistence are largely dependent on natural reserves and ecosystems services. (25)

The human environment and the natural environment deteriorate together; we cannot adequately combat unless we attend to causes related to human and social degradation. In fact, the deterioration of the environment and of society affects the most vulnerable people on the planet: Both everyday experience and scientific research show that the gravest attacks on the environment are suffered by the poorest. (48)

We must continue to be aware that, regarding climate change, there are *differentiated responsibilities*. As the U.S. bishops have said, greater attention must be given to "the needs of the poor, the weak and the vulnerable, in a debate often dominated by more powerful interests." We need to strengthen the conviction that we are one single human family. (52)

### Related Prayers of the Faithful

**Option 1:** That wealthy countries throughout the world offer hospitality to migrants fleeing from poverty, violence, and climate change, let us pray to the Lord ...

**Option 2:** That we do our part to address the environmental, socioeconomic, and political forces that deprive people of their human rights, including the right to a healthy environment, let us 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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