

# Integral Faith

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



## Homily Helps and Petitions for the 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle C (July 10, 2022)

### Homily Helps

#### † Scripture Passages to Note:

**Deuteronomy 30:** For this command that I enjoin on you today is not too mysterious and remote for you...No, it is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts; you have only to carry it out.

**Colossians 1:** Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For in him were created all things in heaven and earth, the visible and the invisible.

**Luke 10:** "Which of the three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?" [The scholar] answered, "The one one who treated him with mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

#### † Comments for the Day:

Today's first reading is taken from the end of Moses' last address to the Israelites before they crossed the Jordan and entered the promised land. After exhorting his people to keep God's commandments that lead to prosperity and blessings, he calls for an interior conversion. The commandments of God are already written in their hearts. Moses assures them that it is possible for them to obey God by listening to their better selves. He does not, however, assure them that it will be easy.

Paul writes to the Church in Colossae that Christ was present at the first creation. Christ continues to create and govern all of creation, both in heaven and on earth.

In today's gospel, the scholar of the law approaches Jesus with a trick question. Jesus answers him with a story about a person who crosses political and religious boundaries to help another human being. Perhaps the Samaritan was listening to God's word in his heart. Jesus is teaching that anyone, especially those in dire need, is our neighbor.

Pope Francis reminds us that we need to listen to the cry of the poor, the poor in our neighborhoods, and the poor who are being displaced by climate change. These poor people have done the least to bring about climate change, and yet suffer from it the most. May we heed our Holy Father's call, and that of Christ himself, to care for the poor and most vulnerable by caring for "all things in heaven and earth, the visible and the invisible," including our climate.

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:

God has written a precious book, "whose letters are a multitude of created things in the universe." The Canadian bishops rightly pointed out that no creature has been excluded from these manifestations of God. "From panoramic vistas to the tiniest living form, nature is a constant source of wonder and awe. It is also a continuing revelation of the divine"... 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)

The external deserts in the world are growing, because the internal deserts have become vast. For this reason, the ecological crisis is also a summons to profound interior conversion. It must be said that some committed and prayerful Christians...ridicule expressions of concern for the environment. Others are passive; they choose not to change their habits and thus become inconsistent. So what they all need is an 'ecological conversion,' whereby the effects of their encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in their relationship with the world around them. (217)

This conversion calls for a number of attitudes which together foster a spirit of generous care, full of tenderness. First, it entails gratitude and gratuitousness, a recognition that the world is God's loving gift, and that we are called quietly to imitate his generosity in self-sacrifice and good works.... It also entails a loving awareness that we are not disconnected from the rest of creatures, but joined in a splendid universal communion. (220)

### Related Prayers of the Faithful

**Option 1:** That we might grow in our awe of creation and our communion with the creatures who share our planet, let us pray to the Lord...

**Option 2:** That we might heed Pope Francis' call to interior conversion in caring for the earth, our common home, 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)

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