

Integral Faith

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



Catholic Climate Covenantsm
Care for Creation. Care for the Poor.

Homily Resources and Petitions for the 15th Sunday of Ordinary Time Cycle C (July 14 2019)

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."

Psalms 19: The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul; the decree of the LORD is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple... "Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life."

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 on earth..., all things were created through him and for him.

Gospel of Luke 10: Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

† Passages from *Laudato Si'* to note:

The New Testament does not only tell us of the earthly Jesus and his tangible and loving relationship with the world. It also shows him risen and glorious, present throughout creation by his universal Lordship: "For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross" (Col 1:19-20). (*Laudato Si'* #100)

† Comment for the day:

When a scholar of the Law asks what one must do to gain eternal life, Jesus responds by asking about what is already written in the Law. The scholar responds by citing love of God and love of neighbor. As Moses tells us in the Book of Deuteronomy, the law is very near, already in our mouths and hearts. We have only to carry it out.

The parable of the Good Samaritan illustrates this innate law. It is compassion. Even fallen human nature recognizes this because it has this goodness at its core. Just as the Samaritan acted on the basis of fundamental human compassion, so must we give expression to, rather than ignore, our own capacity for compassion when we hear about those who suffer from floods, drought, or rising sea levels. Not everyone enjoys the blessings that we do, and some will suffer because of climate change and the destruction of the environment that modern economic life causes. We cannot just turn our backs on these people.

Finally, in the Christological hymn from Colossians we read, "Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation." "In him all things hold together." Jesus is not aloof from

creation or elevated above it; he is in solidarity with creation. We, too, are in solidarity with creation, not its adversary. Indeed, our stewardship of creation is an act of adoration of its Lord.

† **Related Prayers of the Faithful:**

Option 1: That all Christians may open their hearts to the grace of God and so be able to respond to the needs of others with compassion, let us pray to the Lord....

Option 2: That Christians may respond with compassion to the needs of victims of drought, climate change, deforestation, and other environmental woes, let us pray to the Lord....

Feedback: Info@CatholicClimateCovenant.org

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

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