

# Integral Faith

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



Catholic Climate Covenant™  
Care for Creation. Care for the Poor.

## Homily Helps and Petitions for the 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle C (October 9, 2022)

### Homily Helps

#### † Scripture Passages to Note:

**2 Kings 5:** Please let me, your servant, have two mule-loads of earth, for I will no longer offer holocaust or sacrifice to any other god except to the LORD.

**Psalms 98:** Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done wondrous deeds.... All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation by our God. Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands: break into song; sing praise.

**2 Timothy 2:** Remember Jesus Christ...such is my gospel, for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains, like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained.... If we are unfaithful, [Jesus Christ] remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself.

**Luke 17:** "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!"... One of [the lepers], realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice; and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. He was a Samaritan.

#### † Comments for the Day:

In both the first reading and Psalm, we are reminded that the very earth is part of the alliance that God makes with His people. Naaman learns that God's gifts are free when Elisha refuses a present for the healing. But Naaman comes to an even deeper understanding of the relationship between the God of Israel and the people when he asks for two mule-loads of earth: The earth is the Lord's and it is given to all people. Carrying the earth with him shows that Naaman accepts his responsibility to God, to his sisters and brothers, and to the created world itself.

Psalm 98 calls on the earth to break into joyous song, echoing the poem of St. Francis of Assisi that proclaims the universal fraternity that exists between all of God's creatures. Although universal fraternity is the vision that God offers for creation, fulfillment of this dream takes commitment and hard work.

Paul endures the hardship that comes with faithfully living God's word – a word that will not be chained. As Pope Francis frequently reminds us in *Laudato Si'*, we are called to take the narrow path, to live morally sober lives, and to promote a lifestyle that will help protect the earth that sustains all life. We must also defend all our sisters and brothers, especially the poorest and most marginalized who are most affected by environmental degradation and climate change. The pope further notes that in spite of past neglect, our generation may yet be remembered for shouldering

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.

its grave responsibility to safeguard our common home. St. Paul underlines the theme of hope: “If we are faithless, [Jesus Christ] remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself.”

The request of the ten lepers to Jesus is for mercy. Jesus heals them all, regardless of their differences, asking only for their thanks. What is our own response to the Lord of life for all the gifts that we have received?

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

Politics and business have been slow to react in a way commensurate with the urgency of the challenges facing our world. Although the post-industrial period may well be remembered as one of the most irresponsible in history, nonetheless there is reason to hope that humanity at the dawn of the twenty-first century will be remembered for having generously shouldered its grave responsibilities. (165)

Today, in view of the common good, there is urgent need for politics and economics to enter into a frank dialogue in the service of life, especially human life. (189)

Any technical solution which science claims to offer will be powerless to solve the serious problems of our world if humanity loses its compass, if we lose sight of the great motivations which make it possible for us to live in harmony, to make sacrifices and to treat others well. (200)

### Related Prayers of the Faithful

**Option 1:** For a deeper awareness and gratitude for all the gifts the Lord has given us, and a commitment to use them for the good of our sisters, brothers, and the earth, let us pray to the Lord....

**Option 2:** For healing in communities that are divided and for the healing of 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)

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