

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 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle C (October 27, 2019)

Homily Helps

† Scripture passages to note:

Sirach 35: The Lord is the judge, and with him there is no partiality.... The prayer of the humble pierces the clouds, and it will not rest until it reaches its goal; it will not desist until the Most High responds and does justice for the righteous, and executes judgment.

Psalms 34: The Lord hears the cry of the poor....When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears, and rescues them from all their troubles.

2 Timothy 4: I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.... But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it.

Luke 18: Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and regarded others with contempt....God, be merciful to me, a sinner!... For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.

† Passages from *Laudato Si'* to note:

An interdependent world not only makes us more conscious of the negative effects of certain lifestyles and models of production and consumption which affect us all; more importantly, it motivates us to ensure that solutions are proposed from a global perspective, and not simply to defend the interests of a few countries. (# 164)

International negotiations cannot make significant progress due to positions taken by countries which place their national interests above the global common good. (# 169)

[T]hese are primarily ethical decisions, rooted in solidarity between all peoples. (# 172)

Because the enforcement of laws is at times inadequate due to corruption, public pressure has to be exerted in order to bring about decisive political action... Unless citizens control political power – national, regional and municipal – it will not be possible to control damage to the environment. (# 179)

I am concerned to encourage an honest and open debate so that particular interests or ideologies will not prejudice the common good. (# 188)

We know how unsustainable is the behavior of those who constantly consume and destroy, while others are not yet able to live in a way worthy of their human dignity. (# 193)

† **Comment for the day:**

In the Gospel for this Sunday, Jesus speaks of a proud Pharisee and a penitent tax collector. The Pharisee believes himself to be righteous and holy. He holds all others, like the tax collector, in contempt. Insofar as he gives no thought to solidarity with others, it is clear that he is convinced of his own self-sufficiency. The Pharisee is living in his own world. In comparison, the tax collector recognizes that he is a sinner in need of the mercy of God. Such an attitude will enrich his relationships, producing compassion for others who share his situation of neediness before God. Jesus highlights the fact that the tax collector will go home justified: those who exalt themselves will be humbled, but those who humble themselves will be exalted.

Ben Sirach and St. Paul agree. Sirach assures us that the prayer of the humble will pierce the clouds and find its way to God. God responds and does justice for those who act rightly, rescuing them from their troubles. Saint Paul testifies that, indeed, God has stood by him and given him the strength to proclaim the Gospel to the Gentiles.

On the global stage, Pope Francis stresses in *Laudato Si'* the virtues and attitudes necessary for promoting the dignity of every human being, for addressing the urgent crisis which confronts us, and for defending Mother Earth. He also calls our attention to the interdependence that marks our world. Because of this interdependence, the negative impact of the few ends up affecting all, including the environment itself. In the face of this tragedy, let us speak to one another. Let us enter into dialogue about our current situation, seeking solutions that will benefit all, and not just some countries and some classes of people. The global common good demands that we foster a spirit of solidarity, working to eliminate extreme poverty, promote the social development of all, and seek creative ways to heal the earth. The Pope invites citizens to take control of politics at all levels; only in this way will we be able to confront our social and environmental problems.

† **Related Prayers of the Faithful:**

Option 1: That we may grow in our sense of solidarity, actively seeking to eliminate the distance that separates us from one another, near and far, let us pray to the Lord....

Option 2: That God may give us a sense of compassion and solidarity, enabling us to work side by side with others for the good of our communities and the protection of our common home, the Earth, let us pray to the Lord....

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