

# Integral Faith

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



Catholic Climate Covenant<sup>sm</sup>  
Care for Creation. Care for the Poor.

## Homily Resources and Petitions for the Fifth Sunday of Lent Cycle C (April 7, 2019)

### Homily Helps

#### † Scripture passages to note:

**Isaiah 43:** See, I am doing something new!

In the desert I make a way, in the wasteland, rivers.

Wild beasts honor me, jackals and ostriches,

for I put water in the desert and rivers in the wasteland for my chosen people to drink....

**Psalms 126:** Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the torrents in the southern desert. Those that sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.

**Philippians 3:** For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much

rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having any righteousness of my own based on the law but that which comes through faith in Christ...

[F]orgetting what lies behind but straining forward to what lies ahead, I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus.

**Gospel of John 8:** Then the scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery and made her stand there in front of everyone...

"Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."

"Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She replied, "No one, sir." Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more."

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

The culture of relativism is the same disorder which drives one person to take advantage of another, to treat others as mere objects, imposing forced labor on them or enslaving them to pay their debts (#123).

Underlying the principle of the common good is respect for the human person as such, endowed with basic and inalienable rights ordered to his or her development...the common good calls for social peace and stability and security provided by a certain order which cannot be achieved without particular concern for distributive justice (#157).

We live and act on the basis of a reality which has been given to us, which precedes our existence and our abilities (#140). Water is a gift of God, yet "...there is a growing tendency, despite its scarcity, to privatize this resource, turning it into a commodity subject to the laws of the market. Yet access to safe drinkable water is a basic and universal human right..." (#30).

The notion of a common good also extends to future generations...we realize that the world is a gift which we have freely received and must share with others (#159).

† **Comment for the day:**

The scriptures for this day call our attention to new possibilities and new life. Isaiah announces that God is doing something new. Paul has laid aside his impressive credentials as a Pharisee and a scholar in favor of new life in Christ. Jesus does not judge the woman taken in adultery; he offers her a second chance. Scripture reminds us of the ways that God works to open up new opportunities, inviting us to walk new paths.

Pope Francis urges us to see that God calls us to a new way of living on the earth. He encourages us to forsake the mindset that justifies unsustainable exploitation of the resources of our planet. Instead, he reminds us that creation is a gift from God to be cherished and handed on to future generations. He calls upon us to take up the responsibility to care for our common home with renewed zeal while that opportunity is still open to us.

The Pope highlights the fact that water is a gift of God to all; yet, despite its scarcity, there is a growing tendency to privatize it, to turn it into a commodity subject to the laws of the market. He declares unequivocally that access to safe drinkable water is a basic and universal human right. Throughout the world millions of people are faced with little water, or water that is contaminated due to activities like mining. As followers of Jesus who are dedicated to solidarity and care for creation, we need to study the water situation across the globe and find ways to promote access for all to this sacred resource.

† **Related Prayers of the Faithful:**

**Option 1:** That as we remember the promise of God to provide water in the desert, we might work to guarantee safe water to all peoples throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord, ...

**Option 2:** That concern for future generations lead us to reconsider our use of the earth's resources, committing ourselves to live frugally so that all might live, let us pray to the Lord, ...

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Webpage:                    [www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/resource/english-homily-help](http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/resource/english-homily-help)

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