

# Integral Faith

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



## Homily Resources and Petitions for the Fourth Sunday of Advent Cycle C (23 December 2018)

### Homily Helps

#### † Scripture passages to note:

**Micah 5:1:** "You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah, too small ..., from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel."

**Psalms 80:4, 15-16:** "Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved. ... O Lord of hosts, look down from heaven, and see; take care of this vine and protect what your right hand has planted."

**Luke 1:42, 45:** "Blessed is the fruit of your womb.... Blessed are you who believed..."

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

"We cannot fail to consider the effects on people's lives of environmental deterioration." (#43)

"The loss of forests and woodlands entails the loss of species which may constitute extremely important resources in the future, not only for food but also for curing disease and other uses." (#32)

"The impact of present imbalances is seen in the premature death of many of the poor, in conflicts sparked by the shortage of resources, and in any number of other problems...." (#48)

#### † Comment for the day:

The health of infants in the womb is impacted by the quality of the environment in which their mothers live. We may feel small in the face of the challenges to earth's health, but from us can come healing remedies that will enable us to see God's face in nature, and rejoice.

#### † Related Prayers of the Faithful

**Option 1:** That our celebration of Christmas will be an opportunity to grow in the peace of Christ, a peace that envelopes all creation, let us pray to the Lord ....

**Option 2:** As we ponder God's great love for us, may we be filled with gratitude and awe for the world, especially for infants in the womb and expectant mothers, let us pray to the Lord ....

## † Sample Bulletin Notice

**THE INFANT JESUS** is often called the Prince of Peace, and today's readings remind us that he brings us peace. In his *Laudato Si'* encyclical, Pope Francis makes important connections concerning peace. He writes that St. Francis "shows us just how inseparable is the bond between concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society, and interior peace." (#10) He also writes: "Inner peace is closely related to care for ecology and for the common good, because lived out authentically, it is reflected in a balanced lifestyle together with a capacity for wonder which takes us to a deeper understanding of life." (#225)

### 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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