

# Integral Faith

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



## Homily Helps and Petitions for the Solemnity of All Saints, Cycle A (November 1, 2023)

### Homily Helps

#### † Scripture Passages to Note:

**Revelation 7:** "Do not damage the land or the sea or the trees until we put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God."

**Psalms 24:** The Lord's are the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it... One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean, who desires not what is vain... shall receive a blessing from the Lord.

**1 John 3:** Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

**Matthew 5:** Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied

#### † Comments for the Day:

Our first reading from Revelation is a form of apocalyptic literature, which uses imaginative symbols to portray present situations. The symbols in Revelation assure persecuted Christians that they will have a place in heaven with the risen Christ. This is worth remembering whenever we feel "persecuted" for taking a stand in protecting God's creation.

The First Letter of John also assures the embattled early Christians that their status as adopted children of God, who now carry the name of Jesus Christ, will be welcomed as His own. Psalm 24 offers an eloquent reflection on creation. It also promises blessing to those "whose heart is clean, who desires not what is vain."

Finally, Matthew's gospel challenges us to ask ourselves if we really hunger and thirst for righteousness, or simply leave that to others. The Beatitudes are a call to action, to strive for holiness through humility, charity, peace, and justice. In so doing, we help sustain the beauty and richness of our common home, thus protecting all life – human or otherwise – that depends on it.

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

I urgently appeal, then, for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all... Obstructionist attitudes, even on the part of believers, can range from denial of the problem to indifference, nonchalant resignation or blind confidence in technological solutions. We require a new and universal solidarity.... All of

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.

us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents. (14)

In another age of trial and persecution, when the Roman Empire was seeking to impose absolute dominion, the faithful would once again find consolation and hope in a growing trust in the all-powerful God ... The God who created the universe out of nothing can also intervene in this world and overcome every form of evil. Injustice is not invincible. (74)

In the present condition of global society, where injustices abound and growing numbers of people are deprived of basic human rights and considered expendable, the principle of the common good immediately becomes, logically and inevitably, a summons to solidarity and a preferential option for the poorest of our brothers and sisters.... it demands before all else an appreciation of the immense dignity of the poor in the light of our deepest convictions as believers. (158)

### Related Prayers of the Faithful

**Option 1:** That we become more aware of the need to heal our common home, and then to act on this awareness, let us pray to the Lord ...

**Option 2:** That we have the courage to protest the devastation of our planet, even if others are critical or dismissive, 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)

*Visit our webpage and sign up to receive these resources delivered to your email inbox each month.*