

# Integral Faith

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



## Homily Helps and Petitions for the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Cycle C (November 20, 2022)

### Homily Helps

#### † Scripture Passages to Note:

**2 Samuel 5:** You shall shepherd my people Israel and be commander of Israel.

**Psalms 122:** We will go up to the house of the Lord... to give thanks in the name of the Lord.

**Colossians 1:** He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

**Luke 23:** Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

#### † Comments for the Day:

This feast was instituted in 1925 by Pope Pius XI to counteract fascist and communist movements that gave governments total power over human lives. His successor, Pope Francis, noted in his homily for Christ the King in 2016: "The grandeur of his kingdom is not defined by this world but by the love of God, a love capable of encountering and healing all things."

In his letter to the Colossians, Paul relates his experience of Christ as the creative force that drives all things in the universe forward; in him we have redemption and forgiveness. And in today's gospel, the second criminal rises above the first's mockery, repents of his wrongdoing, and asks only to be remembered by Jesus. Jesus recognizes his repentance and welcomes this lost sheep into his kingdom.

Today, our beautiful planet and all of creation is a precious gift from God, imbued with the Holy Spirit. Unfortunately, we have neglected and misused this precious gift, essentially renouncing our responsibility for its stewardship. Like the second criminal, let us be conscious and repent of the harm we have brought to our common home. Let us reconcile with the earth, and recognize that God is the life force in all things. In this manner, all creation can become the "peaceable kingdom."

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

The bishops of Brazil have pointed out that nature as a whole not only manifests God but is also a locus of his presence. The Spirit of life dwells in every living creature and calls us to enter into relationship with him. Discovering this presence leads us to cultivate the "ecological virtues."  
(88)

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.

The New Testament does not only tell us of the earthly Jesus and his tangible and loving relationship with the world. It also shows him risen and glorious, present throughout creation in his universal Lordship: “For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.” ...The very flowers of the field and the birds which his human eyes contemplated and admired are now imbued with his radiant presence. (100)

Modernity has been marked by an excessive anthropocentrism which today, under another guise, continues to stand in the way of shared understanding and of any effort to strengthen social bonds. . . . Our “dominion” over the universe should be understood more properly in the sense of responsible stewardship. (116)

### Related Prayers of the Faithful

**Option 1:** That we may treat all living things with reverence, recognizing them as part of God's creation, let us pray to the Lord ...

**Option 2:** That our society may repent for a lifestyle that has caused so much harm to our common home, and thus also to the poor and vulnerable, 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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