

Integral Faith

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



Homily Helps, Petitions, and Bulletin Notices for the The Feast of the Ascension, Cycles A, B, C (25 or 28 May 2017)

Homily Helps

† Comment for the day:

Jesus commissions his disciples to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. Soon after, Jesus is taken up to heaven and the men in white pointedly ask the disciples, "Why are you looking at the sky?" The task Jesus has given them is urgent, and they ought to get on with it! And they will be given all that is necessary: Jesus and the Father will send their Spirit. In this way he has assured them that he will be with them until the end of time.

For his part, the Holy Father lays out a daunting series of tasks for us in *Laudato Si'*. He asks us to examine the premises that govern our lives and the kind of society we create as a result. He asks how we can transform our lives and our society to promote a "culture of care." If we are to do this on more than a superficial level, we must be open to the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts and in the heart of the universe. In doing so, we bear witness to the hope we are given as Jesus's disciples in our world.

† Scripture passages to note:

Acts 1: [Y]ou will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.
[W]hy are you standing there looking at the sky?

Ephesians 1: May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call...

Matthew 28: Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations... And behold, I am with you always, until the end of time."

† Passages from *Laudato Si'* to note:

In calling to mind the figure of Saint Francis of Assisi, we come to realize that a healthy relationship with creation is one dimension of overall personal conversion, which entails the recognition of our errors, sins, faults and failures, and leads to heartfelt repentance and desire to change. (#218)

[S]ocial love moves us to devise larger strategies to halt environmental degradation and to encourage a "culture of care" which permeates all of society. (#231)

The Spirit, infinite bond of love, is intimately present at the very heart of the universe, inspiring and bringing new pathways. (#238)

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.

Related Prayers of the Faithful

Option 1: That like the disciples we might be prophetic witnesses of the Good News in our world today, let us pray to the Lord....

Option 2: That in the spirit of Saint Francis, we might all be models of care for our sisters and brothers, and for the world in which we live, let us pray to the Lord....

Further Resources

Feedback: IntegralFaithForLife@gmail.com

Webpage: www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/resource/english-homily-help

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