

Integral Faith

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



Homily Helps and Petitions for the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle A (15 January 2017)

Homily Helps

† Comment for the day:

In their theological reasoning, medieval theologians used the axiom "bonum est sui diffusivum" which translates "the good is diffusive of itself". The goodness and love found within the three persons of the Trinity were poured out into time and space in the act of creation.

As products of this creative act of love, all humans are called to share God's overflowing goodness in their own time and place. In today's first reading, Isaiah is called not only to restore the tribes of Jacob, but to be a light to all nations so that God's love might reach the ends of the earth. Paul reminds us that we are called to be saints, those who work to build God's Kingdom of love, truth, peace and justice in our world. And Jesus, the Lamb of God, undergirds the entire process by taking away the sin of the world, that is, he invites each and every one of us to leave behind our pettiness, our greed and our egotism, to live for others.

In this same spirit, Pope Francis in *Laudato Si'* reminds us that we face a complex crisis which is both social and environmental. We must find strategies that promote an integral approach to restore dignity to the excluded, combat poverty and protect nature. We are all responsible to foster the quality of life, which is threatened by a series of difficulties like lack of housing, criminalization, overcrowding in mega-cities and lack of access to essential services. In the words of the responsorial psalm, we are called to proclaim: "Here I am Lord; I come to do your will."

† Scripture passages to note:

Isaiah 49: It is too small a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.

Psalm response: Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

I Corinthians 1: From Paul...to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints...

John 1: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

† Passages from *Laudato Si'* to note:

We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature. (#139)

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.

Homily Helps (cont.)

† Passages from Laudato Si' to note (cont.):

Authentic development includes efforts to bring about an integral improvement in the quality of human life, and this entails considering the setting in which people live their lives. (#147)

Related Prayers of the Faithful

Option 1: Loving God, we pray that you grant us the courage to say yes to your will as we struggle to secure the dignity of all and the health of our planet, let us pray to the Lord....

Option 2: Loving God, help us to work with all our sisters and brothers to find solutions to the common problems we face, let us pray to the Lord....

Further Resources

Feedback: IntegralFaithForLife@gmail.com

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

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