

# Remain Steadfast...

November is remembered as the month of the dead. In the readings today, we look at death from the perspectives of Old Testament martyrs and Christ. Death becomes a transparent frontier, a great opening onto God's horizons of love. Our faithful and merciful God rose from the dead and is our Source of hope.



When we think of what lies ahead for us beyond the tomb, are we paralyzed by fear or supported by the certainty of a Presence who awaits us? What are the criteria for our decisions? Are there still causes that are worth dying for? Yes, the witnessing of modern martyrs affirms this. Pope John-Paul II beatified and canonized people who refused the Nazi illusion of life. These days, the Christians of the Near East live in constant danger because of the murderous folly of pseudo-religious groups who murder anyone who is different. The witnesses of our faith teach us the value of perseverance. Remaining steadfast and courageous requires more than lip service. We read in the first passage: *As a result, the king himself and those with him were astonished at the young man's spirit, for he regarded his sufferings as nothing* (2 Macca 7: 12).

The chatter in our society turns us away from our Source of hope by inviting us to indulge in excessive materialism instead of faith. These worldly ambitions lead us on often impossible quests for perfection. The Gospel today refers to a possible but highly improbable situation. How relevant was this discussion? What would be the widow's status in eternal life according to the Sadducees' strict perspective of marriage? The passage dealt with resolving the problem of a legal lineage by repetitive marriages. Jesus contested this world view. According to Christ, eternal life would depend on God's promise. Jesus spoke of eternal life as one that would be completely renewed, a renaissance that would guarantee quality of life with God. This relationship would be possible since as God's children and heirs, we will partake in the joy experienced by the angels, God's privileged messengers.

At the end of the Gospel we read: *Now he is God, not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive.* This could be interpreted as *living to join him* or *living with him, with his ways, thanks to him.* Human life, despite all appearances, is not a hodgepodge of events without any direction or orientation. Everything converges toward God. Everything leads us to encounter our faithful God. This encounter is not a one-off situation but a life-long journey that continues in eternity.

*Alain Faucher, priest*

Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli

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Father John Baxter  
**MASS INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 6, 2016**

**Please pray for:**

Lea Guilbeault & Ferruccio Berardo  
Joe Santone  
Silveria & Carmine Marcogliese  
Carmela Galardo  
Domenica Cappelli  
Leonard Martell  
Francesco Franchi  
Giuseppe Cappelli  
Ada Cappelli  
Catherine Khouzam  
Angelina Sabino Macera  
Umberto Macera  
Nick & Margaret Gabriel  
Angelo Costanzo  
Mariangela Gangale  
Filomena Tallarico  
Domenico Tallarico  
Leopoldo Gangale

**Requested by:**

Family  
Family  
Family  
Family  
Her daughters  
Family  
Wife  
Daughter  
Daughter  
Family  
Tony Macera & Family  
Tony Macera & Family  
Diane & Family  
Family  
Family  
Family  
Family  
Family

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We celebrated at Holy Family last week two anniversaries: **Deacon Richard Brisebois**, 25 years ordained a deacon and **Fr. John Walsh** for 50 years as a priest. Both liturgies were well attended by friends and well wishers from the parish. A brunch was held after Mass on Sunday in their honour and everyone seemed to really enjoy the breakfast time together. A special thank you to the **Knights of Columbus Chabassol Assembly** who served the brunch. They are a group of wonderful men with big hearts always ready to serve other. So a huge thanks to you from all of us!

**Holy Family's Remembrance Day** celebration will take place on November 13<sup>th</sup>. Please join us for this touching ceremony honouring all the men and women in service - past, present and future.

**Parish Bake Sale on Sunday, December 4!**

Our annual bake sale will take place on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> after mass.

Please contact Linda Glashan if you plan on baking or if you have any questions. This is an important fundraiser for our parish.

**Volunteers needed for the Childcare Centre.** Even if you can only help once or twice throughout the year, it would be appreciated. This service enables parents and parishioners to fully enjoy Father Baxter's wonderful liturgies. If you can help, please speak to Maria Kelly.

**Please visit our new and improved web site at:** <http://www.holyfamilyparishmtl.com>

Feel free to provide your comments / suggestions / or add to Joe Piazza at [jpiazza@live.ca](mailto:jpiazza@live.ca)

If you wish to add your email address to Holy Family's address list, please send it to [jpiazza@live.ca](mailto:jpiazza@live.ca)

"Got an idea for a project...maybe Pillars Trust can help support it!" Following an assessment, the Pillars Trust will provide 'seed money' for any new initiatives coming from parishes or the community. Contact us at [ptf@catholiccentre.ca](mailto:ptf@catholiccentre.ca). "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" ( Joshua 24:15)

Did you know that the **Pillars Trust Fund sends out four information "Newsletters" a year?** To ensure that you receive these "Newsletters" by email, kindly ensure that all of your vital mailing information is up to date with Pillars Trust. You can do this by sending an email to [ptf@catholiccentre.ca](mailto:ptf@catholiccentre.ca), including your name, home address, postal code and phone number.

**For those wishing to have a mass said for loved one or a friend, please see Sharon Murphy after mass.**

Last Sunday's collection was \$2095. Thank you!

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Instead of "the John," I call my toilet "the Jim." That way it sounds better when I say I go to the Jim first thing every morning.