

# Women of Faith Resources: November 2018



(<http://nyclq-focalpoint.blogspot.com/2013/11/hello-november.html>)

## November Quotes by Joyce Rupp

“People gain so much hope when they know they are not experiencing something alone.”

“Drink more water and walk in a relaxed manner.”

“Negative feelings are like stray cats. The more you feed them, the more they hang around.”

## Featured Day: November 2 – All Souls Day

The feast of All Souls' Day is a tradition in the Christian church. Prayer is a pathway to our remembering our loved ones who have passed away. We remember who they were in our lives and what they left us of themselves. As Saint Augustine says “If we had no care for the dead, we would not be in the habit of praying for them.” The Catholic Church remembers the deceased with special Eucharistic celebrations or other prayer services.

This day also may be marked in other ways by lighting candles for loved ones or visiting their graves and placing flowers there. In some places in Latin America, families visit the graves of their ancestors and sometimes leave food offerings for the departed. A popular custom of French people is to decorate the graves on the *jour des morts* (the day of the dead).

There is scriptural basis for All Souls Day. The primary reference is in 2 Maccabees, 12:43-46. Judas, the ruler of Israel, acted in an excellent and noble way as he had the atonement for sin and the resurrection of the dead in view. “*Judas, the ruler of Israel, took up a collection among all his soldiers, amounting to two thousand silver drachmas, which he sent to Jerusalem to*

*provide for an expiatory sacrifice. In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way, inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view; for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death. But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought. Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from this sin.”*

## **Lectio Divina: Reflections for meditation**

- 2 Maccabees 12:43-46
- Wisdom 3:1-9
- Matthew 12:31-32
- 1 Corinthians 3:13-15 2
- 1 Peter 3:18-20

## **Prayer Petitions for All Souls Day**

For the Holy Catholic Church, for Francis our pope, \_\_\_\_\_ our bishop, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons, we pray to the Lord:

***Lord Hear Our Prayer***

For the leaders of the nations, that they would seek first the Kingdom of God, and fill the world with the peace and justice of Christ, we pray to the Lord:

***Lord Hear Our Prayer***

For all those who are sick or suffering, and especially those who are near death, that they would experience a happy death, free of pain and loneliness, we pray to the Lord:

***Lord Hear Our Prayer***

For all the faithful departed in Christ, that perpetual light would shine upon them, and that their earthly imperfections be mercifully pardoned, we pray to the Lord:

***Lord Hear Our Prayer***

In thanksgiving for all of our departed friends, family, and community members, and the many ways in which they touched the lives of everyone around them; may their memory always live on, we pray to the Lord:

***Lord Hear Our Prayer***

In thanksgiving for the new life which we all have in Jesus Christ, as we joyfully await the heavenly hope he has promised for us, we pray to the Lord:

***Lord Hear Our Prayer***

([source](#) for petitions above)

## **Audio Divina: Music accompanied by images**

Enjoy the following musical selections from YouTube and let your heart and soul be touched by their messages.

### [HYMNS OF GLORY: for All Souls Day from St Francis', Lonsdale St, Melbourne Part 3](#)

Hymns, music and prayers for All Souls Day from the choir of St Francis Church in Lonsdale street- Melbourne's oldest Catholic church and its original Cathedral. Music directed by Tony Way, soprano soloist Larissa Cairns, organist Anthony Halliday. Hymns of Glory is a 12 part Australian series of hymns and songs broadcast by ABC TV.

[Richard Strauss - All Souls' Day \[Fennell, TKWO\]](#) by the Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra; The Special Concert Vol. 66 - Conductor: Frederick Fennell; April 20th, 2000 / Tokyo Bunka Kaikan.

[Song: To Where You Are by artist Josh Groban](#) As one commentator says: "Love transcends beyond this life."

## **For Spiritual Reading**

[Readings & Reflections for All Souls Day](#) from St. Joseph Catholic Church - 1790 14th Street - Marion, Iowa.

[Scripture Reflection, November 2: Feast of All Souls](#) from Catholics on Call at Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, Illinois.

[Reflection: All Saints and All Souls](#) by James Sabak, OFM, October 28, 2015. Fr. James is assistant professor of liturgy and sacramental theology at Providence College, in Rhode Island.

## **Visio Divina: Art for Prayer and Meditation**

"Visual images are another doorway to sacred awareness. They can touch into our desire to grow in intimacy with God. So, we encourage one another to let ourselves be touched by the colors, shapes, figures and symbols that capture our attention most as we are praying. While gazing at an image ~ a painting, a photo, an icon, a sculpture, a piece of pottery ... something may leap out at us, calling our attention to something of God just waiting to reveal itself to us."

(Ideas inspired by Christine Valters Paintner and Betsey Beckman in their book, *Awakening the Creative Spirit: Bringing the Arts to Spiritual Direction*. See also [Abbey of the Arts](#).)



<https://kathleenhalme.com/explore/gravestone-clipart-all-souls-day/>

If you cannot visit a cemetery on All Souls Day, perhaps contemplating this photo may help you to pray for your departed loved ones. Who are you remembering today? What would you like to say to each one in your prayer?



<https://admontemmyrrhae.blogspot.com/2016/03/the-body-of-christ-his-church.html>

Artists portray what heaven or the Body of Christ in Heaven might look like. While praying with this image, close your eyes and let an image of your deceased relatives and friends come to you. Perhaps, those who have gone before us have messages of consolation, strength, and hope to give to us as we pray for and with them.

## **Featured : All Souls Day Videos Around the World**

[Sister Mary Ann Barnhorn's All Souls' Day Message](#) (Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur)

[Latina – The Day of the Dead in Latin America](#)

[All Souls Day in Warsaw, Poland](#)

[All Souls Day in Laitumkrah, Shillong, India](#)

[Dies Irae. Sequence. All Souls Day Mass. Gregorian Chant. 2014. Caulfield. Australia](#)

[Passion Points - All Souls Day and Halloween](#)

*Resources compiled by Sr. Yvette Bellerose, SSA*