

## **Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Greater Toronto Central Council**

Spiritual Readings for the month of November 2020 - Prepared by Msgr. Bianco

For the entire Vincentian community, Staff, Volunteers, all Council and Conference members, all Spiritual Facilitators, from Msgr. Bianco.

You have two choices for November.

### **Option One:**

In the Roman Catholic tradition, as well as in secular and National traditions (November 11, Remembrance Day) November is traditionally the month which we pray for and remember all those who have died. In the Roman Catholic funeral mass one of the readings we choose for those who have died is the following reading from the Gospel of Saint John, C14: v.1-4

"Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Believe in God, believe also in me.

In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.

If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

I will come again and take you to myself, so that where I am there you may be also."

Read and be still for two minutes.

Do you believe and or think that there is life after death?

Do you believe and or think that we don't know whether or not there's life after death?

Do think that the word for life after death is heaven?

Who gets in and who doesn't?

What happens to those people who do not believe and or those who think there is no heaven?

Do all people believers, nonbelievers, does everybody get to heaven?

Does believing in bodily personal resurrection affect how you live now?

Do you think and or believe that Jesus of Nazareth lived, died rose from the dead and is alive now?

Do you observe All Souls Day, Remembrance Day and or pray/think of all your loved ones who have died?

There are enough questions here to discuss/share for twelve minutes.

Concluding prayer from St. John Henry Newman: for those who are not of the Christian faith tradition, a moment of silence is appropriate.

"Father,

support us all the day long

till the shades lengthen,

and the evening comes,

and the busy world is hushed,

and the fever of life is over,

and our work is done!

Then in your mercy

give us a safe lodging,

a holy rest, and peace at the last!

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord."

Total reflection, prayer, discussion time: fifteen minutes.

## **Option Two:**

Connect to YouTube title by clicking on the link:

["Pope Francis consoles a boy who asked if his non- believing father is in heaven"](#)

Listen and watch twice: eight minutes.

Discuss, share the interaction between Emanuel, Pope Francis and the other people present.  
Is this consolation true, false, a placebo that avoids Emanuel's loss?

Discuss for six minutes.

Concluding prayer:

"Eternal life grant to us O God; may perpetual light shine on us forever. Amen"

Total time fifteen minutes.

Feedback requested and always welcome.