

Daily Homily  
33 Ordinary Week: Monday  
[20 November 2023](#)

“Determined and resolved,” great qualities that are held up today in both readings.

After the death of King Alexander the Great, Antiochus comes to power and begins to introduce and impose Greek culture on the Israelites, on the Jewish people. He does so with the intention of secularizing the kingdom that led to the persecution of those who did not keep up with the current trends.

Gymnasiums took peoples’ attention away from the Temple, pagan sacrifices were mandated, observance of the Sabbath was discarded, and idols were even placed in the Temple itself. Eventually, laws were passed sentencing people to death if they carried the Torah or were found observing its laws.

Those faithful to the Jewish way embodied “determination and resolve.”

A blind beggar... shouts out twice in determination and resolve for Jesus’ attention. In spite of a crowd that rebukes him, it pays off. This is not just a miracle story of blindness healed and sight restored. This is also a call story – this beggar becomes Jesus’ follower. And even a rebuking crowd is changed to a crowd that offers praise... All because of “determination and resolve.”

May our sense of “determination and resolve” find motivation today, be increased even, and help us to be grounded in Jesus’ healing and in following Him.