

**Weekly Bulletin**  
**St. Aloysius and St. Columban Bulletin**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**  
**March 21, 2021**

Reading I	Jeremiah 31.31-34
Responsorial Psalm:	Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Reading II	Hebrews 5.7-9
Gospel	John 12.26

**\*\*\* Important Notice - UPDATE \*\*\***

The church is open for Sunday 11 a.m. mass allowing up to 100 attendees as per current pandemic provincial restrictions (St. Al's capacity is 75). Pre-registration will NO longer be required for mass but attendance and contact information will be taken before mass for contact tracing purposes.

Disposable tri-fold masks are now mandatory (FABRIC or CLOTH MASKS ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTABLE), as per diocesan directive.

Social distancing of 2 meters between individuals must be maintained. Upon arrival and during mass, attendees are not to move about in the church but must remain in their pews. During communion, those wishing to receive the eucharist are to stand in their pew and wait for a eucharistic minister to bring the eucharist to them.

Wednesday morning mass will follow the same protocols as Sunday mass.

For those unable to attend the Sunday mass in person, we will continue to live stream the mass on St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish Community page on Facebook (viewing the LIVE mass as it takes place). Make sure to "like" and "follow" our FaceBook page (see link below) to be able to view the live stream at 11 a.m.

<https://www.facebook.com/StAloysius-Gonzaga-Parish-Community-141740569252256>

The live stream will be saved on the FaceBook page to be viewed at any time.

We will keep you informed of any changes as they arise.

**St. Columban will be closed for the months of January, February and March.**  
**First mass for 2021 will be Easter Sunday April 4 at 9:00 am**

***To all the faithful of the Archdiocese of Gatineau,***

***I want to encourage all members of our diocesan church to get vaccinated in order to protect the health of our people. It is a gesture motivated both by generosity towards others and by personal responsibility.***

***There is no moral reason not to get the vaccine. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith clarified this issue a few months ago. It was mandated by the Pope to study this of question, and I fully agree with its assessment.***

***Various conspiracy theories that claim these vaccines are a means of population control have no basis in fact.***

***Since the start of the pandemic, over 150 people have died from this disease in our region. Think of all those grieving families. Think of our children and grandchildren who have to mask themselves to go to school. Think of businesses that cannot reopen. Think of our parishes which are deeply challenged by the conditions we know. The only way to overcome this pandemic is for the entire population to get vaccinated.***

***If you've never suffered from diphtheria, smallpox or tetanus... if you don't know anyone who has died from whooping cough, measles or polio... it's because of the vaccines that brought these diseases under control. Let's add COVID-19 to this list.***

***I invite you to imitate our good Pope Francis and to get vaccinated!***

***Fraternally in Jesus Christ,***

***+ Paul-André Durocher***

## **ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION**

**March 14:      Collection: \$1470.00  
                    Through the Diocese for February: \$535.00**

### **Financial update – how did we do in 2020 and what to expect in 2021**

Given we have been unable to hold an Annual General Meeting due to pandemic restrictions, it is important for the Wardens Board to share with you a summary of our financial situation. Although 2020 was a very unique year in many ways, and the pandemic had an impact on our finances, we were able to successfully cover all our expenses and actually finish the year with a \$500 surplus. This was the result of the incredible generosity of parishioners and some close scrutiny on our operating expenses. The month of December revenues in particular allowed us to make up for the deficit we had been expecting up until then. Details of the 2020 revenues and expenses are posted on the bulletin board at the front of the church for those who wish to see the actual numbers.

As for 2021, the diocese has approved our proposed budget which is slightly reduced overall from last year. Of note, and in order to create much needed new revenue generating options for the English parishes, the diocese has agreed to allow collections at funerals with the consent of the family. We have incorporated potential revenue in our 2021 budget from funeral collections to make up for the loss in hall rental and social event revenues this year given the on-going pandemic. A copy of this year's approved budget is also posted on the bulletin board at the front of the church.

I want to thank all of you for your continued financial support to the parish in these challenging times. As Finance Warden, I am comforted by the fact that our little community continues to step up, time and time again, when faced with difficult financial realities. Thank you.

Jim Brownrigg  
Finance Warden

### **NOTICE ABOUT YOUR ST. AL'S WARDENS.**

There is currently one position to be filled, the Public Relations Warden.

Two other positions were coming due as well; The Finance Warden and the Social Warden; both Jim Brownrigg, Finance Warden and Ann Marie Plante, the Social Warden, have accepted to continue to serve us for the next three years. The Board asks for anyone interested in the position of Public relations warden, contact Carol, our parish secretary, or Robert Nadeau at 819-663-6366, or email Bob at [rgnadeau@outlook.com](mailto:rgnadeau@outlook.com).

The duties of the Public relations Warden include:

- a) As required, forms and chairs a Public Relations committee to help in performing his/ her duties.
- b) Responsible for the maintenance of content and layout of the parish web-site and social media.
- c) In coordination with the Board, publicizes Parish-related information through various ways.
- d) Responsible for sending thank you cards or letters on behalf of the Board for special services or gifts.

The person accepting this position, will be part of a great team for two years, serving our Parish. The Board is asking you to help complete our team. Thank you.

### **MASS Intentions:**

Sun. March 21	11:00 a.m.	For Todd Milks by Gail and Bob Nadeau For Sidney & Edna Arnold and George Dagg by Susan Arnold
Wed. March 24	9:15 a.m.	For all parishioners
Sun. March 28	11:00 a.m.	First Anniversary Mass for David Whitworth by Lorraine For Clifford Daly by his brother, Peter

### **CONFESSION**

In preparation for Easter, Fr. Albanus is available for individual confessions. Please call the office (819)663-5244 and book an appointment for your confession.

**Note:** wearing of masks and other protocols are to be observed.

### **Invitation to “virtually” participate in the Chrism Mass, Wednesday March 31 at 11:00 AM**

You are invited to participate online in the Chrism Mass which will take place on Wednesday, March 31 at 11:00 AM. During this celebration, Archbishop Durocher will bless the oil of catechumens, the oil of the sick and consecrate the holy chrism. The oils will then be distributed to the parishes. Here is the link of the Chrism Mass: [https://youtu.be/-Y61xG\\_xwg0](https://youtu.be/-Y61xG_xwg0) . To access live, you must first subscribe to the page and activate the notification bell. Here's how :

- 1) Click on [https://youtu.be/-Y61xG\\_xwg0](https://youtu.be/-Y61xG_xwg0)
- 2) Click on "Subscribe"
- 3) Click on the little bell next to "Subscribe"

## **EASTER SCHEDULE**

<b>Holy Thursday:</b>	St Aloysius	7 p.m.
<b>Good Friday:</b>	St Aloysius	3 p.m. (*Pre-registration required)
<b>Easter Vigil:</b>	OLV:	7 p.m.
	St. Aloysius	7:30pm
<b>Easter Sunday:</b>	St. Aloysius	11am
	St. Columban	9am
	St. Malachy	9am
	OLV	11am.

**\*Pre-registration is required for Good Friday Mass ONLY. Registration begins on Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m.**

**All Masses at St. Aloysius will also be streamed on FaceBook LIVE.**

### **Lent: Dying out of Love to Live for Ever**

Today's liturgy focuses on the approaching death of Jesus in which He offered His life for others. We are reminded that we too must possess heaven by dying to self and spending our lives in self-giving, sacrificial service. In the first reading, the Prophet Jeremiah announces that God would replace our Covenant of Judgement with a New Covenant of Forgiveness of sins. The people of God failed to keep the old covenant made at the foot of Mount Sinai contrary to their promise of fidelity to God. Instead history showed a succession of betrayals; and the consequence was ruin at the hand of their enemies. God will make a new Covenant to cope with their infidelity, a Covenant that will be different from the first. The old Covenant was founded on beautiful laws; the commandments of God were written on stones and only served as road signs and never penetrated the hearts of the people. They gave the people direction but did not give them the power to move in the required direction. The people were too weak to keep the beautiful laws. Signs and strong words are of no use when there is no strength. In the New Covenant, the commandments would be engraved in the most intimate part of humans, in their hearts. The laws would no longer be an external imposition but a "felt interior need to behave well, a desire, and resolve to speed along God's way, without need for anybody to teach anyone else." (Armellini, F vol. B, p.93). The Spirit of God in the person's heart would be the guiding force, to give the strength to overcome all temptations, even the seemingly insurmountable ones.

This prophecy of the New Covenant began to be realized at Easter, when Jesus, by dying and entering into the glory of the Father, gave us His Spirit, His strength. When the Spirit of God which has been planted in us like a small seed grows to maturity, then the kingdom of God will be fully with us. The book of Hebrews, our second reading, speaks about the dual nature of Christ: He is both God and man. The author tells us that it is by His suffering and death, in obedience to His Father's will, that Jesus established this new and better Covenant as prophesied by Jeremiah (Jer. 31:31-34). Today's passage stresses the reaction of Jesus to suffering and death. As man, He felt what every person feels in these circumstances. As a man Jesus went through all the difficulties and temptations we all experience. The only difference is that He was never overcome by evil and was always faithful to the Father unlike us. The Gospel echoes the same message: Jesus uses

the metaphors of the “sown wheat grain” and the “spent life” to teach the same message. In nature, nothing is produced without passing first through death. The grain of wheat, before turning into a wheat stalk, must first disappear under soil. It is by His suffering and death that Jesus is bringing life and liberation to the sinful world, just as the grain of wheat sown in the field ceases to remain itself alone by germinating and then growing into a plant which produces many new grains.

The Gospel has a lot of implication for us all: it is by self sacrificial lives of holy men and women that life and salvation come to humankind. When we “die” to our selfishness, we “rise” to new life in Jesus Christ. To be “buried in the earth” means avoiding sin, accepting suffering and living for others. Again, all those who want to save their lives, to bring about the birth of a new world, must first have the courage to die. That is, they must give themselves up in love. Jesus says: *“The person who loves their life loses, and the person who hates their life in this life will keep it for eternal life”*. Like Christ, we reach the utmost fulfillment of our lives when we give ourselves up to death for love of our brothers and sisters. Only life spent for others will be glorified here and hereafter. It is better to burn out than to rust out (cf Mark 8:35; Mt 16:25; 10:39; Lk 9:24). Lent is a time to take a decision to “die”. Happy Sunday!

### **Share Love, Share Lent: Raise a toast to yourself!**



Did you know that over 10,000 Canadian Catholics like you are members of Development and Peace?

The *Share Love, Share Lent* campaign invites you to pray for them and to honour their solidarity towards our sisters and brothers in the Global South.

**Show your support by donating generously this coming Solidarity Sunday.** You can also become a monthly donor and have your year-long contribution matched, thanks to the support of religious communities across Canada. Not only will you double your impact, but you will also automatically become a member of Development and Peace!

Learn more at [devp.org/lent](http://devp.org/lent).

Follow our solidarity calendar at [devp.org/lent](http://devp.org/lent).

### **FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH**

Please pray for the sick of our Parish: Atreyu Harvey, Rita Lacelle, Adeline Gendron, and Diane Morey.

## ONLINE EVENTS



Our Parish will be offering a weekly Alpha discussion on-line starting Thursday April 8<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m until June 17<sup>th</sup>.

It is meant for people who have never been to Church or who have left it but seem to be thirsting for more to life and would be open to get to know Jesus. It is an opportunity to freely and honestly discuss life, faith, meaning.

We are asking each one of you to start praying about who God may be calling you to invite. Write down their names and pray for them. Give them a call to talk to them about it and tell them why you thought about them. Invite them to check out [www.alphacanada.org](http://www.alphacanada.org) and if they are interested tell them to go to our parish website <https://www.stalloysius-stcolumban.com/news-events> to register.

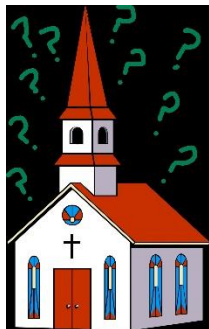
### FAMILY FEUD – ZOOM – MARCH 27<sup>th</sup>



It was unanimous that everyone had fun during the last Social Distancing St Aloysius version of Family Feud on Zoom. If you didn't get a chance to check it out, you still can, on Saturday, March 27, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Michelle Cook Warden has kindly agreed again to host the 3<sup>rd</sup> game. Come join in the fun.

The St. Al's Family Feud event will consist of families going head to head (families will be made up of registered participants). Survey says, don't delay and register for this fun event now! For more details and to register please visit <https://www.stalloysius-stcolumban.com/events/familyfeud> Registration is free; however, donations to the church are greatly appreciated.



### **THE MASS - WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT**

Are we really aware of the rich symbolism of everything we say and do at Mass and what really happens there? Do we have the words to explain why we still participate in this great mystery when so many have left? Please, let's get together on Zoom on Wednesday afternoons at 3:00 to watch the series "The Mass Unconfined" given by our Archbishop; 30 minutes watching the videos and 30 minutes putting it in our own words. Please register today.

Register at [www.stalloysius-stcolumban.com/events/the-mass](http://www.stalloysius-stcolumban.com/events/the-mass) and a link will be sent.

### BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: ONLINE EXERCISES (Spring session)



Diane Joannis has kindly offered to do a second session of the online exercise classes. The classes will be every Thursday morning at 10:00am beginning **March 11<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup>**. Exercises are geared to every fitness level and equipment is not required. Register on our

website at <https://www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/news-events> There is no fee to register, however donations to the parish would be greatly appreciated. Get a healthy start to your day with friends!

Note: if you registered for the previous session you must register again for the classes in March.

**A MIND-OPENING way to spend a Monday evening.**



Pauline Leduc is hosting a Monday evening at 7:pm session on Reflection on Scriptures. The participants are asked to read over the scriptures for the up-coming Sunday. Everyone is asked to take a few minutes to really reflect on what is written. The discussions that follow are very heartfelt and mind opening.

We are finding that each participant, when celebrating the mass the following Sunday, listens to and understands the homily more meaningfully. Join us by Registering on our web site. <http://www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/newsevents>

## **BIRTHDAYS FOR MARCH**

John Stanyar - 6<sup>th</sup>  
Diane Ford - 10<sup>th</sup>  
Mary Connelly - 10<sup>th</sup>  
Janice Nadeau - 14<sup>th</sup>  
Anne Bokovay - 15<sup>th</sup>

Katy Brownrigg - 15<sup>th</sup>  
Anthony Lalonde - 19<sup>th</sup>

