

Weekly Bulletin
St. Aloysius and St. Columban Bulletin
2nd Sunday of Advent
December 5/6, 2020

Reading I Isaiah 40.1-5, 9-11
 Responsorial Psalm: Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.
 Reading II 2 Peter 3.8-14
 Gospel: Mark 1.1-8

ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION

November 22: Regular Collection: \$980.00

The monthly financial reports (previous 2 months) are posted on the bulletin boards at the front and side entrances of the church for your perusal.

MASS Intentions:

Wed. Dec. 2	9:15 a.m.	For all parishioners
Sat. Dec. 5	4:30 p.m.	(St Columban) For Nora Ryan Somer by her estate
Sun. Dec. 6	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For Ann Milks by Lorraine Whitworth 19 th Anniversary Mass for Dick Butler by Nancy & Family For Pasquale and Adalgisa Martire by Mirella & Raymond Bernier
Wed. Dec. 9	9:15 a.m.	For all parishioners
Sat. Dec. 12	4:30 p.m.	(St. Columban) For Shirley and Lou Maisonneuve by Marc, Shanna and Family
Sun. Dec. 13	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For Louise Lortie by Ann Smits

SPECIAL COLLECTION: December 6th: Development and Peace

2021 DONATION ENVELOPES ARE READY AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CHURCH
If you don't have envelopes and would like some, speak with Jim Brownrigg at Mass or call or email the office.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE (more details to follow)

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24:	St. Aloysius	7:00 p.m.
	St. Columban	9:00 p.m.
Christmas Day, Dec. 25:	St. Aloysius	11:00 a.m.
NEW YEARS		
January 1 st	St. Aloysius	11:00 a.m.



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

CONFESSION

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

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

ADVENT

The theme of Advent is always vigilance and readiness as we wait for the coming of the Lord. Today's readings, in the context of this vigilance, speak about homecoming. They focus on the importance of getting ready for the homecoming of Christ into our hearts and lives by true repentance, prayers and the renewal of our lives. They remind us that the comings of Jesus are in fulfilment of God's saving plan for us, a plan He has from all eternity. In the first reading, the Prophet Isaiah speaks about the hope that the slavery of the Babylonian exiles (the Israelites) is about to end and the exiles may soon return to the land of their ancestors, Judah and their holy city of Jerusalem. God says "Comfort, O comfort my people...." The prophet promises them that the Lord will lead them in a grand procession to their homeland and take care of them as the shepherd takes care of his sheep.

In the second reading, St Peter invites us to get ready to go home to Heaven with Jesus at His second coming. The early Christians were under the impression that Jesus would return to this world soon and so were discouraged by the seeming delay in His return. Thus, Peter explains that God's way of measuring time is different from ours and that God has His own reasons for 'delaying' Christ's second coming. He says; "...with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day." (v8). Again, God wants all people to be given a chance and time to convert and be saved. It is therefore useless to make calculation (as some do) in order to foresee the coming of the Lord for He will come suddenly like a thief. So Christians should not lose heart, but should keep up their commitment so that "new heavens and a new earth" may finally come.

The Gospel tells us, through John the Baptist, how we should prepare to receive Jesus our Saviour's "coming home" into our lives during the Advent by repentance and renewal of life. Mark presents in this passage the mission of John the Baptist. John dressed in a strange way and lived an austere life. By this Mark is telling us that John is a new Elijah, preparing the way for the Messiah. He is also fulfilling the mission of Isaiah in the first reading. John too lived in a desert like the Israelites and ate wild food. John was inviting everyone to join him in that desert in order to repeat the experience of Exodus and start a new people that would be led by the new Moses – the Messiah. He preached that the appropriate behaviour for those preparing "the way of the Lord" was to be baptized "as they confessed their sins." He wanted the Jews to prepare their lives for the Messiah by filling in the valleys of prejudice, levelling the mountains of pride and straightening out their crooked paths of injustice and immorality, a reference to the prophecy of Isaiah in the first reading. John the Baptist is saying the same things to us today. We are invited to review our lifestyles, to break away from a style of life that is irreconcilable with a new world where peace is to be the fruit of justice. Let us use these days of preparation for Christmas to ready ourselves for Christ's daily coming and second coming, remembering that the second coming will occur for each one of us on the day of our death, or on the Day of the Lord, whichever comes first.

SOMALIA STORY



A story from Somalia With your help, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE The economic impacts of an erratic 2020 rainy season, locust infestation and the COVID–19 pandemic are increasing the severity of food insecurity in Somalia. Shahido, a 40-year-old mother to 3 girls and 7 boys who lives in a camp for internally displaced persons is ready to face this triple threat thanks to a food security project launched by our partner Trócaire with our support. Shahido and 100 other women will have access to land, seeds, equipment and training to farm produce to feed their families.

Development and Peace Collection – December 6th

POSTPONEMENT OF THE 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Normally in early December St-Al's holds its' Annual General Meeting for the election of churchwardens and to provide reports of each of the portfolios. However, we have been directed by the diocese to postpone the AGM as long as Gatineau is deemed a red zone.

If the situation improves before March 1, 2021 an announcement will be made at least six days in advance of the proposed AGM date. Note that the current churchwardens will remain in office until the election is held. Should we remain a red zone beyond March 1st, following the recommendation of the parish priest and the chairperson, the bishop will appoint new churchwardens to replace the outgoing churchwardens.

Christmas Memories



We all have heartwarming memories of Christmas and traditions passed down from generation to generation; was it roasting chestnuts over an open fire, decking the halls with boughs of holly, rocking' around the Christmas tree, walking in a winter wonderland, or do you remember sneaking down the stairs to see mommy kissing Santa Claus?

Grab a cup of hot cocoa, egg nog, or whatever your holiday beverage may be and cozy up to stories of Christmases past.

What are your favourite memories, traditions, foods, songs? What makes your season bright and your heart all a glow?

Catch up with fellow parishioners and friends for a casual stroll down memory lane on Sunday, December 6th at 3:00 pm. Register on the website to receive the Zoom link.

<https://www.staloyisus-stcolumban.com/news-events>

FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Please pray for the sick of our Parish: Rita Lacelle, Filipe Garrido, Adeline Gendron, Roger Seguin, Phyllis Seguin and Peter Simard.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE – St. Al’s and St. Columban



The annual Christmas food drive has started. Please feel free to donate canned food, pickles, pasta, rice, toothpaste, laundry detergent, etc. We will be collecting specifically for the Christmas food baskets up to December 17, but please continue to donate throughout the year. Thank you for your cooperation in bringing a Merry Christmas to the less fortunate in our community.

ANGEL TREE CAMPAIGN



Again this year we will be having our Angel Tree Campaign. Each angel represents the children of families that are helped with our Christmas food baskets.

By choosing an angel or two, ensures that the children have gift to open at Christmas.

If you are interested in buying a gift, **please reply to this email requesting an angel by age and gender** from the list below.

	BOYS
	1 boy angel – 9 yrs
	1 boy angel – 10 yrs

Please wrap the gift, attach a tag with the gender and age on the outside, and do not write your name on it. Gifts may be left at the entrance of the church before or after Wednesday or Sunday mass, or contact the office to schedule a drop-off time. All gifts must be received by December 16th.

Note, that due to the current restrictions to attending mass, the Angel Tree will not have angels available on it in the church.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

The Charitable Fund

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy to Irene and the Lalonde Family on the passing away of Robert this week. May he rest in peace.

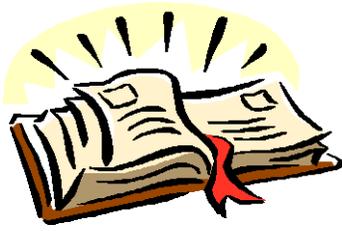
A HEALTHY WAY to spend a Thursday morning.



Diane Joanisse who is offering another way to join in on some exercising, good company and fun. She is hosting a Thursday morning exercise class at 10:00 am. She is offering her expertise to teach cardio exercises as well as body sculpting. Exercises are geared to all levels and everyone is welcome. A one-time registration on our web site at

NEWS EVENTS is all that is required.

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>

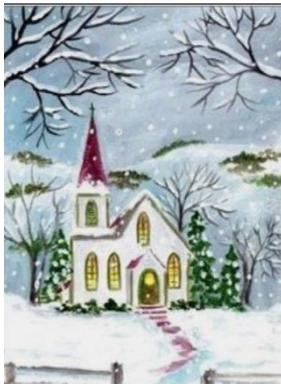
St. Al's Virtual Christmas Paint Night: Unleash your inner artist

Looking for a fun social activity to do at home? Join us on Saturday, December 12th, 7-9:00PM for a **free** hosted Virtual Paint Night, an instructor-led class you can follow in the comfort of your own home! You can either use the supplies you have at home, or order painting supplies from us for home delivery* (see note below)!

How it works: Join us on Zoom and follow along while our instructor guides you step-by-step through the featured painting. If you're feeling creative, change the colours to suit your décor or go completely rogue. This is your creative license!

Maximum 8 participants so register soon! Click here to register <https://www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/events/paint-night-unleash-your-inner-artist>

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:



- 11x14 canvas (any size will work)
- Acrylic Paint - Primary Colours (White, Black, Blue, Red, Yellow)
- 3 Brushes (we suggest a small, medium and large brush)
- A table top easel (not necessary)
- Paper towel and a cup of water to clean your brushes

***Note:** Supplies can be ordered by **December 5th** for a fee of \$30 (cost includes supplies, delivery and a small donation to St. Aloysius parish). Simply order your supplies when you register

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES IN DECEMBER

George Lemieux -	4 th	Bob Nadeau -	5 th
Mike Groulx -	8 th	Carol Léonard -	16 th
Bradley Burke -	20 th	Lina O'Brien -	23 rd
Paul & Adeline Gendron ,	28 th - 55 th		

