

Weekly Bulletin
St. Aloysius and St. Columban Bulletin
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 24, 2021

Reading I	Jonah 3.1-5, 10
Responsorial Psalm:	Lord, make me know your ways.
Reading II	1 Corinthians 7.29-31
Gospel	Mark 1.14-20

***** Important Notice *****

The Quebec provincial government announced on January 6th, that they would be invoking a 5-week lockdown starting January 9th. As a result, St-Aloysius church will be closed for the duration of the lockdown. The parish will continue to operate but Wednesday and Friday morning Masses will be cancelled. Although the church is closed, Father Al will be permitted to say Mass alone on Sunday mornings at 11am and will broadcast the Mass via Zoom and FaceBook. To access the Mass via Zoom, click on the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/91088908876?pwd=QUVpRVFwNThJT1JOZjdqSHNPZTJoQT09>

Meeting ID: 910 8890 8876
Passcode: D8z45N

We will also continue to live stream the Mass on the St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish Community page on Facebook (viewing the Zoom 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 11am.

<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 Sunday April 4 at 9:00 am (TBC)

ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION

Deposit: January 19: \$790.00

Collections during lockdown

While the church is closed for the next 5-weeks due to the provincial lockdown, our church continues to operate. As such, your weekly donations are still very much needed to cover our regular expenses during this time. Since we cannot meet in person, please take advantage of the diocesan on-line donation system to make your contributions (accessible via our web site under the Donations tab - Donate Now button) or drop off your collection envelopes through the mail slot at the office. You can also mail your donations/collection envelopes to us at St. Aloysius

Parish, 300 rue de l'Abbe-Murray, Gatineau, Qc J8P 4Z4. We appreciate your continued support during this time.

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.

ZOOM MASS Intentions:

Sun. Jan. 24	11:00 a.m.	For Muriel Grenier and Laura Dolcini by Bob & Gail Nadeau For John Cook by Michelle Warden Cook
Sun. Jan. 31	11:00 a.m.	For Samantha Lalonde by Irene Lalonde For David Whitworth by Lorraine

2021 DONATION ENVELOPES ARE READY AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CHURCH If anyone who hasn't already picked up their envelopes and wishes to do so, they'll need to call the office to pick them up given the closure of the church. Thanks.

Responding to God's Call

The readings of this Sunday speak about the need for repentance and a prompt response to God's call. The first reading tells the story of Jonah who tried to escape the mission he was given by God and how the people of Nineveh responded positively to the call to convert. God had to deal with the disobedient, fleeing prophet Jonah to turn him around (convert him), so that, repenting, he would go to Nineveh to preach repentance there. The wicked people of Nineveh accepted Jonah as God's prophet at once, and promptly responded to God's call for repentance as Jonah preached it. In the second reading, Paul urges the Christian community in Corinth to lose no time in accepting the message of the Gospel and in renewing their lives with repentance because Jesus' *second coming* may occur at any moment. Paul does not invite us to despise all material goods and comfort but rather advises us to give earthly/material things their real importance. They are, no doubt, important but they are not eternal. Therefore he stresses the need for courageous choices and renunciations as regards them for love of our brothers and sisters. This love is far superior to all material goods. Earthly things pass away but love is eternal.

Today's Gospel describes how Jesus came to Galilee and began preaching, challenging people to "**repent** and **believe** in the **Gospel**." Like John, Jesus also called for **repentance**, meaning a change in one's mind or in the direction of one's life, setting new priorities. Conversion/repentance means beginning to think according to the logic of God and place the needs of our brothers and sisters first, and not our own. Repentance also means hating sin, not just being sorry for the consequences of one's sins. **Believing** in the Gospel demands from the hearers a resolution to take Jesus' words seriously, to translate them into action and to put trust in Jesus' authority. Jesus preached the **Gospel**, or Good News, that God is a loving, forgiving, caring and merciful Father Who wants to liberate us and save us from our sins through His son Jesus. The Gospel describes the call of Jesus' first disciples, Andrew, Peter, James and John. By this, today's Gospel also emphasizes how we, sinners, are to respond to God's call with total commitment by abandoning our accustomed style of sinful life. Jesus started his public ministry immediately after John the Baptist was arrested. According to Mark, Jesus selected four fishermen, Andrew and his brother Peter with James and his brother John, right from their fishing boats. Jesus wanted these ordinary, hard-working people as assistants for his ministry because they would be very responsive and generous instruments in the hands of God.

The disciples' call does not come as they are praying or doing anything particularly important but as they are just going about their daily chores. This shows that the call is completely gratuitous. We have come to know and follow Christ because He chose to reveal to us the love of the Father without any merit on our part. The disciples in the Gospel answer their call immediately; they leave everything to follow Jesus. They are not allowed any delay. They must reply at once, and such reply must be accompanied by a concrete giving up of their past way of life. Hence, every disciple has to make an immediate and final separation. Nothing should stand in our way when it comes to following Christ. Even legitimate love for parents and family, an attachment to one's profession, a need for social and financial security, the wish not to lose one's friends, these all must be given up if they are impediments to the life that Jesus call us to. It is therefore appropriate for us to ask ourselves: what did we leave when we decided to follow Jesus? What links did we sever? What "nets" should we leave behind today when we decide to follow Jesus? (Armellini Fernando, Year B, p. 173-174). We need to appreciate our call to become Christ's disciples: Every one of us is called by God, both individually, and collectively as a parish community, to continue Jesus' mission of preaching the Good News of God's Kingdom and healing the sick. We are called individually to a way of life or vocation: – a religious commitment (priest, deacon, missionary, religious Sister or Brother, marriage partner or single person), plus a particular occupation arising from our talents (medicine, law, teaching, healing, writing, art, music, building and carpentry, home-making, child-rearing). Our own unique vocation should enable us to become what God wants us to be (Kadavil, A). Happy Sunday!

2021 REGISTRATION FOR FIRST COMMUNION & RECONCILIATION

Preparation for Sacraments Registration

Note that a registration fee will be charged to cover the cost of materials and administration. Details will be provided at the first meeting.

Due to the pandemic, all meetings will be held virtually via Zoom.

First Communion and First Reconciliation:

Parents of children who are in grade 2 or older (7 years old or +) may register their child for First Eucharist and First Reconciliation. Please complete the form found on the website at <https://www.staloyisus-stcolumban.com/firstcommunion> and return it by email to the parish along with a copy of the child's baptismal certificate (if baptized in a parish other than St. Aloysius).

One of the best ways you can help your child prepare for sacraments as a family is to attend weekly Mass together. Please review the Directives for Attending Mass at <https://www.staloyisus-stcolumban.com/news-events>. Registration is required to attend in person, or the Mass may be viewed live on our Facebook page.

Contact Louise MacMillan (gordandlouisemacmillan@gmail.com) or the parish office if you have any questions.

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.

FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

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

ONLINE EVENTS



After the fun we had with our Trivia Nights, we have decided to try virtually hosting another one of the favourite game shows, Family Feud! Michelle Cook Warden has kindly agreed to host this event on Saturday, January 30, 2021 at 7:00 pm. 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.staloysius-stcolumban.com/events/familyfeud> Registration is free however, donations to the church are greatly appreciated.

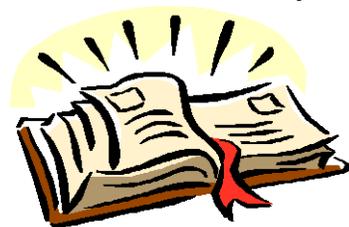
BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: ONLINE EXERCISES STARTING in JANUARY



Diane Joanisse has kindly offered to do a second session of the online exercise classes. The classes will be every Thursday morning at 10:00am beginning January 7th until February 25th. 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 beginning in January.

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 IN JANUARY

Alice Burich - 19th
Georgina Robert - 25th

Paulette Pearce - 26th
Mary Daly - 31st

