

Weekly Bulletin
St. Aloysius and St. Columban Bulletin
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 7/8, 2020

Reading I	Wisdom 6.12-16
Responsorial Psalm:	My soul thirsts for you, O Lord my God.
Reading II	1 Thessalonians 4.13-18
Gospel:	Matthew 25.1-13

ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION

November 1: Regular Collection: \$1124.65

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:

Sat. Nov. 7	4:30 p.m.	(St. Columban) For Nora Ryan Somers by Her estate
Sun. Nov. 8	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For Dave Whitworth by Gail and Bob Nadeau For the special intention of Richard Berube
Wed. Nov. 11	9:15 a.m.	For all parishioners
Sat. Nov. 14	4:30 p.m.	(St. Columban) For Alma & Larry Miller by Gary Miller
Sun. Nov. 15	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For Gail Racicot by The Gatineau Friendship Club

SPECIAL COLLECTION: November 14/15: Mission chez nous

Message from the Finance Warden

As we approach the final 2 months of the calendar year, a unique year in many ways, I wanted to provide you with an update on our finances. As expected, our budget targets are significantly off as a result of the pandemic restrictions imposed on mass attendance and reduced collection opportunities over the past 7 months. Also, revenue from short term hall rentals and social events has been curtailed due to the pandemic. We have reduced some of our expenses but must maintain the majority of fixed costs to provide services to the parish and remain open. At this point, our overall revenues are projected to be below our expected expenses for the year by about fifteen to twenty thousand dollars (\$15,000-\$20,000). We have approached the provincial government for some additional financial assistance of up to \$1,500 which is promising and expected soon. However, it will not cover the expected deficit. With a couple of months still ahead in the year, uncertain as they may be in terms of continued restrictions, I am hopeful that our community can provide additional financial support to help minimize the projected deficit. If you are able to provide additional support, please do so by dropping off your contributions at mass on Sunday, the office during the week, or provide an on-line donation via the diocesan web site. Income tax receipts will be provided for all contributions. Thank you.

Jim Brownrigg.

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Recently we formed a pastoral team (St. Aloysius and St. Columban) to take a lead in the pastoral dimensions of our parish community life. We thank the following for volunteering to be part of this team:

Jo Anne Lambert (chairperson)

Louise MacMillan (secretary)

Julie McCann

Pauline Leduc

Gord MacMillan

Diana Foley

Fr Albanus Ogowuihe (Pastor)

Please pray for them.

Always Get Enough Oil Ready

Today's readings warn us concerning the preparation for the end of our world, the end of our time and our passage to another world. They speak about vigilance. In the first reading, the author offers us Wisdom, personified as a woman. Writing to the dispersed Jews, the author wants his fellow Jews to seek wisdom and learn from it. Wisdom is a Divine gift that will not elude the one that seeks it sincerely. He therefore advises his fellow Jews to be faithful to the ancestral religion which amounts to seeking Divine wisdom despite the hostile environment. The Jews must therefore live their lives in strict conformity with the Divine wisdom given to them so generously by God. The message of this reading in one word is: God willingly reveals Himself, but mysteriously, in His own way, according to His own timetable. God can be found, but only by those who never give up the search, yet patiently await His initiative.

In the second reading, St Paul, writing to the early Christians expecting the imminent return of Jesus, tells them to be vigilant in order not to miss His return. He writes to respond to their fears and questions about those who die before the Parousia: will the few Christians who die in this short period somehow miss out on the benefits of Jesus' return? They will not, according to Paul, because what God has wrought in the death and resurrection of Jesus is powerful enough to save even those who have "fallen asleep." Paul wants them and us to believe in what the Lord has done for us and not to fret. Only the alert and vigilant can experience God coming in their lives, not those who are asleep to the present. The Gospel continues the theme of end times and the second coming of Christ. In the parable of the wise and the foolish virgins Jesus illustrates teachings about the coming of the kingdom. Like the other parables in Mt 25 and 26, this parable finds pointed application for the waiting faithful in the early Church as they come to terms with

an unexpected delay in the Parousia (the second coming of Christ) which most expected in their own time.

The ten virgins symbolize the Church awaiting the Messianic time. The vigilant among her members are attentive to the essential things while the foolish think about everything except what is important in life. The foolish girls are interested in their dresses, jewels, perfumes, hairstyle, but forget the most essential thing: the oil. Oil stands for our personal relationship with God. In Scripture, it is often used as a symbol of the Holy Spirit; it stands for character and Christian values which we cannot borrow or buy, the foolish virgins' choice. It stands for spiritual capital, all that we build up by good works (concern for the needy and acts of justice). It symbolizes Christian Faith. It includes the spirit of reconciliation with the others and a willingness to share our lives and its blessings with others. Oil refers to faithful and obedient discipleship as defined by the Gospel. We should not lose our heads over the things of this world (money, feasts, pleasure, status etc.) and forget doing something serious and durable in life. It is true that God will always find a way to save a person, but in the end each person will find him/herself holding what she/he has done with his/her existence, what she/he has built up or burnt down. The images in the Gospel call our attention to the seriousness with which we must consider our lives. We should attend to duties of the present moment, preparing now rather than waiting until it is too late. Happy Sunday!

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES IN NOVEMBER

Ann Smits - 2nd
Rita Lacelle - 2nd
Gabrielle McCann - 3rd
Joe McCarthy - 4th
Maximilian McMackin - 4th
Michael Lalonde - 23rd
Paul Luc Lalonde - 30th



Reece Miller - 12th
Kathryn and Maurice Amyot - 14th
Marie Desmarais - 15th
Nicole Paiement - 15th
Roger Seguin - 23rd
Diane Cyr & Keith May - 28th

ONLINE EVENTS:

"St. Aloysius Parish is proud to offer its' first **online** events!

Join exercise guru Diane Joannis for 30 minutes of moving and grooving once a week. Go to our website Events page for more details and to register.

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

Visit our website often to find out about upcoming events or to share ideas for online activities.

St. Aloysius Parish
Social Team"

FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

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

ST. AL'S FOOD CUPBOARD IS VERY LOW



Because of the pandemic there is a higher need for help and our cupboard is getting very low. If you can help, please feel free to donate canned food, pickles, pasta, rice, toothpaste, laundry detergent, etc. which will help the less fortunate in our community. The food can be dropped off before Mass on Wednesday or Sunday mornings or give a call to the office and we can set up a time to meet. Thank you in advance.

The Charitable Fund