

Weekly Bulletin
St. Aloysius and St. Columban
MY CHURCH, MY COMMUNITY, MY FRIENDS

-----**MY CHURCH**-----

4th Sunday of Advent
December 24, 2023

Reading I	2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Responsorial Psalm:	Forever I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord.
Reading II	Romans 16.25-27
Gospel	Luke 1.38

Christmas Eve

Reading I	Isaiah 9.2-4, 6-7
Responsorial Psalm:	Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.
Reading II	Titus 2.11-14
Gospel	Luke 2.1-16

Christmas Day

Reading I	Isaiah 52.7-10
Responsorial Psalm:	All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
Reading II	Hebrews 1.1-6
Gospel	John 1.1-18

New Years Eve – December 31, 2023

Reading I	Genesis 15.1-6; 17.3b-5, 15-16; 21.1-7
Responsorial Psalm:	The Lord is our God, mindful of his covenant forever.
Reading II	Hebrews 11.8, 11-12, 17-19
Gospel	Luke 2.22-40

New Years Day – January 1, 2024

Reading I	Numbers 6.22-27
Responsorial Psalm:	May God be gracious to us and bless us.
Reading II	Galatians 4.4-7
Gospel	Luke 2.16-21

MASS Intentions:

Sun. Dec. 24	11:00 a.m.	For all parishioners
	6:15 p.m.	Christmas Play in Hall at St. Aloysius
	7:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Mass (St. Aloysius)
	7:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Mass (St. Columban)
Mon. Dec. 25	11:00 a.m.	For Irene Aguiar and deceased members of her Family by The Oliveira Family
Sun. Dec. 31	11:00 a.m.	For Agostinho Cabeceiras by the Oliveira Family
Mon. Jan. 1	11:00 a.m.	For all parishioners
Fri. Jan. 5	9:00 a.m.	For all parishioners
Sun. Jan. 7	11:00 a.m.	For all parishioners

ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION - Dec. 17: \$1700.00

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION is available fifteen minutes before all Sunday masses at St. Aloysius. This sacrament is an important part of our continual preparation for the eternal kingdom.

CHRISTMAS PLAY – Many of the children of the parish, led by Kyara and Sanscia, have prepared to offer us a play which is a heartfelt portrayal of the nativity of Jesus, with a few festive Christmas songs for us to join in. This will be held in the church hall starting at **6:15 p.m. Dec. 24th**.



Here is Sanscia's description:

"This play is not just an act but a wonderful way to remember the birth of our Savior, as depicted by the children. It's a testament to their understanding and acknowledgement of the Lord. Moreover, it is a delightful way to spread holiday cheer! It offers a unique story, creativity, and a chance to get into the festive spirit. It fosters a sense of community and warmth. In these times, a shared experience like a Christmas play is more than just a performance - it's a celebration of togetherness."

This is a great opportunity to invite your family and friends, especially the children, to join us to share this gift from our children and then come up for the Christmas Mass at 7:00 p.m.

FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH Please pray for the sick of our Parish: John Nadeau, Marvella Harvey, Sharon Shaw, Adeline Gendron, and Diane Morey.

MAINTENANCE WARDEN – Unfortunately at our AGM Dec. 3rd, no one was nominated nor came forward to fill the Maintenance warden position. It is essential, by Quebec law, that we have six wardens. Please, seriously consider the possibility of volunteering for this by contacting the parish office or any one of the wardens.

Other Sign-Up sheets – At the AGM it was announced that we also need help in three areas: planning for an identifying **sign** in front of the church, planning for an **accessibility** lift or ramp to the hall, and responsibility for the monthly **‘Meet & Greet’**. The duties are:

Front Sign: determine exactly what we want: the look, the size, the location, the labour requirements, the costs, etc.

Accessibility: We may have the opportunity to get funding from Novatio, the City, the QC government, to make our hall accessible to the handicapped. Here again, we need a well-defined plan with what we want, where we want it, quotes on costs, fundraising plans and who we partner with, time frames, estimate of who will benefit, etc.

Meet & Greet: get persons to donate snacks; make beverages, set up in the back of the church, clean up afterwards. If four persons volunteer, each would be assigned three months per year.

Please consider signing up on one of those sheets and **THANK YOU!**



HELP! – Following upon the insurance company’s inspection, we need to upgrade two old fuse panels to newer breaker panels located in the workshop of the rectory. If you are a **qualified electrician** or if you know of one who could help us at a friendly price, please call Mike McCann at 819-893-2621.

Sacramental Preparation

Families who have registered their child for the first sacraments: First Reconciliation and First Eucharist are invited to attend the First Session Sunday January 21 after Mass:

Starting at 12:30. and will end at 2 pm. All sessions end at 2 pm.

Bring your lunch.

note this date:: Fr. Greg will meet all the families on January 28th after mass.

We look forward to meeting all of you.

Louise MacMillan (cell: 819 319 4121) and Diane Joannis

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

Children ages 7 and up are invited to gather in the sacristy and listen to the Word. (Readings and Gospel). This activity is during mass and the children return to their parents just after the prayers of the faithful. Two adults will take turns in leading this activity.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS



If you would like to read, with a group of fellow parishioners, the Scripture readings of the following Sunday in order to better absorb them and let them speak to you during the week, send your e-mail address to the parish office and we will get in touch with you.

THE 2024 COLLECTION ENVELOPES ARE NOW AVAILABLE

The 2024 collection envelope boxes are now available at the back of the church. Thank you.
Jim, Finance Warden

-----MY COMMUNITY-----



A special thank you to all who participated in the fund raising for our needy families this Christmas Season. Because of your generosity we were able to give each of our families a bit extra on their food vouchers with the hampers. Thanks to your response, it was easier to give 22 families, with 47 children the assistance to make their Christmas more enjoyable. We particularly want to thank the School Children and Staff; The Canadian Legions, The United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of Canada and to our anonymous donors and you our Parishioners for your generous response. Thanks, also, to all those who helped make up the hampers and deliver a few.

Nancy Grenier, Chairman, St. Al's Charitable Fund.

STAMPS – Let's get back into the habit of cutting out the stamps from our mail and putting them in the box at church. A member of Developments and Peace has already patiently counted 12,934 stamps that we had collected over the past few years in Gatineau. It is therefore a great invitation to resume our stamp collection. Did you know that since its beginnings in 1992, this initiative has raised more than \$600,000 for Development and Peace. Please place your stamps in the box labelled 'STAMPS' at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing this information with your friends and family.

HALL AVAILABILITY

The fitness group who, for the past few years, had been holding dance classes in our hall on Tuesday and Thursday nights, has not renewed its contract. Consequently, the hall is now available on those nights. If you, or someone you know, would like to reserve the hall for a long term contract (fitness group, AA, Bridge club, whatever...) please contact our hall warden, Brian Peters, by leaving a message at the parish office.

OUR LADY OF VICTORY AND ST. MALACHY CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 23 - regular mass at St. Malachy at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 24 - regular mass at OLV at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 24 (Christmas Eve) - mass at St. Malachy at 9:00 p.m.

Monday, December 25 (Christmas Day) -mass at OLV at 9:00 a.m.

-----MY FRIENDS-----

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES IN DECEMBER

Sanscia Nkwate - 25th

Paul & Adeline Gendron , 28th - 58th

Bob Price - 30th

BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

Moseh Nkwate – 1st

Alice Burich - 19th

Paulette Pearce – 26th

Mary Daly – 31st