

Weekly Bulletin
St. Aloysius and St. Columban Bulletin
4th Sunday of Lent
March 14, 2021

Reading I	2 Chronicles 36.14-17a, 19-23
Responsorial Psalm:	Let my tongue cling to my mouth if I do not remember you!
Reading II	Ephesians 2.4-10
Gospel	John 3.14-21

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

ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION

March 7: Collection: \$925.00

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.

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 14	11:00 a.m.	For Clifford Daly by The Gatineau Friendship Club
Wed. March 17	9:15 a.m.	For all parishioners
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

God So Loved the World

Fourth Sunday of Lent is referred to as **Laetare** (Rejoice) Sunday taken from the first words of today's liturgy introit. It is in the middle of Lenten period and as in Advent, this Sunday reminds us of the Event we look forward to at the end of the penitential season. The Church celebrates today with a sentiment of joy in anticipation of the Resurrection. The readings teach us that our salvation is the free gift of a merciful God given to us in Jesus, His Son. They emphasize God's mercy and compassion and remind us of the great love, kindness and grace extended to us in Christ. The **first reading** speaks about the compassion and patience of God. This reading from 2nd Chronicles contains the lament about the chosen people. It shows how the infidelities of the people caused them to lose the Temple and their homeland, and how God arranged through the Persian King to return them to their homeland and to help them rebuild His Temple there. God allowed Cyrus the Great, a pagan conqueror, to become instrument of His mercy and salvation for His Chosen People who were exiled in Babylon. Thus, the history of love between God and human beings never ends in condemnation. Like the unfaithful people of Israel in this reading, as soon as people leave God, they find themselves in trouble. But there is no prison or dark place that cannot be reached by God. No chains can resist the strength of His all powerful love.

The **second reading** echoes the same theme as the first reading. Paul's letter to the Ephesians reminds us to focus on the mystery of salvation as a gift to sinners. Although we don't deserve anything from God on our own merits, God chose to love, save and give life to us because of His great mercy and love. Salvation is not given to people because of their merits; it is a gratuitous gift from the Father. All our goodness, such as it may be, is His goodness shining through us. Though we are saved 'through faith', this faith itself is the gift of God. Today's **Gospel** has a parallel theme with more emphasis: Jesus, the Son of God, became the agent of God's salvation. It recalls a dramatic event that took place during the crossing of the desert at the time of the Exodus (Num.21:4-9). Nichodemus learns that, like Moses' bronze serpent, Jesus too must be 'lifted up', and that the act of His being 'lifted up' will also bring about salvation. The 'lifting up' here was a contemporary euphemism for 'being crucified' (see also Jn.8:28; 12:32-34). The reference in this Gospel pericope specifically foreshadows the crucifixion of Jesus who carried with Him the burden of the sins of the world. When humans turn their thoughts to the crucified Saviour and believe in Him, they too will find eternal life.

The rabbis (referring to the Exodus event) used to teach that the Jews were healed, not because they looked up at the serpent, but because they raised their hearts to God. The Saviour was the Lord, not the bronze serpent (Wis. 16:7). Jesus makes reference to this passage in the Gospel and states that it is the symbol of what is to happen to Him. He will also be lifted up on the cross, and all who will look up at Him will be saved. Thus, just as the cross was the way to glory for Jesus, so it is for us. It is an unchangeable law of human life, however, that without the cross, there is no crown. To look at Jesus 'lifted up' here therefore, means to 'believe in Him', that is, to accept in faith the message that addresses to all of us from the cross. "*God so loved the world....*" is the summary of the Gospel message of salvation through Jesus Christ. It is the very essence of the Gospel. It tells us that God takes the initiative in all salvation because of His love for humanity. St Augustine puts it even more emphatically that 'God loves each one of us as if there were only one of us to love.' The love of God is universal. His motive is love and His objective is salvation. Those who actually receive eternal life must believe in the Son and walk according to His teaching. That means walking in the Light. Opposing Christ's teaching means opposing Christ Himself, hence walking in darkness. There are many dark corners in our world. Our Lord wants us to stop hiding our sin in the dark and demands that we expose every dark corner to His Light of life. His Light will 'enlighten' us and clean our dirt (sin) away. Lent is the acceptable time, the time of salvation! Happy Sunday!

Share Love, Share Lent: The passion of youth.



Did you know Development and Peace has an active youth movement from coast to coast?

The *Share Love, Share Lent* campaign celebrates the passion and commitment of youth, who represent the present and the future of the Development and Peace movement. Join them in supporting our work for positive change in Canada and the Global South.

Start a solidarity letter chain in aid of Development and Peace. Learn how at devp.org/chainletter.

Follow our solidarity calendar at devp.org/lent.

FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

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

ONLINE EVENTS

FAMILY FEUD – ZOOM – MARCH 27th



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 3rd 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.staloyisus-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.staloyisus-stcolumban.com/events/the-mass and a link will be sent.

St. Al's Virtual Paint Nite: Spring is in the Air!



Looking for a fun activity to keep yourself busy until spring has sprung? Join us on Saturday, March 20th, 7-9:00PM for a free hosted Virtual Paint Nite, an instructor lead 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!

How it works: You will be provided with a Zoom link for the date and time of the event, login 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!

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 tabletop easel (not necessary)
- Paper towel and a cup of water to clean your brushes

Note: Paint, canvas and brushes can be ordered beforehand for a fee of \$30 (cost includes supplies, delivery and a small donation to St. Aloysius parish)

Please register early to guarantee your spot!

For more details and to register please visit <https://www.stalloysius-stcolumban.com/events/st-als-virtual-paint-nite-spring-is-in-the-air>

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 11th to April 15th**. Exercises are geared to every fitness level and equipment is not required. Register on our website at [https://www.stalloysius-stcolumban.com/news-](https://www.stalloysius-stcolumban.com/news-events)

[events](https://www.stalloysius-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.stalloysius-stcolumban.com/newsevents>

BIRTHDAYS FOR MARCH

John Stanyar

- 6th

Diane Ford

-10th

Mary Connelly

-10th

Janice Nadeau

- 14th

Anne Bokovay`

-15th

Katy Brownrigg

- 15th

Anthony Lalonde

- 19th

