



I Am the Vine  
You are the Branches

**Weekly Bulletin**  
**St. Aloysius and St. Columban Bulletin**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
***May 1/2, 2021***

Reading I	Acts 9.26-31
Responsorial Psalm:	Lord, from you comes my praise in the great congregation.
Reading II	1 John 3.18-24
Gospel	John 15.1-8

**\*\*\* Important Notice - UPDATE \*\*\***

The church is open for Sunday 11 a.m. mass allowing up to 25 attendees as per current pandemic provincial restrictions.

Pre-registration for Sunday masses is now required. Please contact the office to register at 819-243-0250 or email at [st.aloysius@bellnet.ca](mailto:st.aloysius@bellnet.ca)

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 but pre-registration is not required.

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. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION**

**April 25:      Collection: \$750**

### **MASS Intentions:**

Sat. May 1	4:30 p.m.	(St. Columban) For all parishioners
Sun. May 2	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For David Whitworth by Lorraine
Wed. May 5	9:15 a.m.	For Alvaro Poças by The Family
Sat. May 8	4:30 p.m.	(St. Columban) For Robert Lalonde by Gary and Margaret Burns
Sun. May 9	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For Clifford Daly by his mother, Shirley Daly For Eugene & Alan Joanisse by Jim & Diane Brownrigg For Marie-Hermance Carrier-Cook by Michelle and Family

## **Abiding in Christ**

Today, the 5th Sunday of Easter, our readings emphasize the need for Christians to abide in Christ as a condition for producing fruits of kindness, mercy, charity and holiness. The first reading testifies to the abundance of spiritual fruits yielded by the apostles because of their close bond with the risen Lord. It describes the aftermath of his transformation from an enemy of the early Christian movement to a God-chosen instrument bringing the Gospel to non-Jews. It tells us how the Lord pruned the former Pharisee, Saul of Tarsus, a fanatic who had persecuted the Church, to produce a fruit-bearing branch called Paul, the zealous Apostle to the Gentiles, entirely dedicated to the proclamation of the Gospel. Even Paul's forced return to Tarsus for a brief period is an example of God's pruning of the vine to bring forth a greater harvest, namely, the mission to the Gentiles. St John in the second reading explains that only if we remain united to Christ by putting our Faith in him and drawing our spiritual strength from him, will we be able to obey God's commandments, especially the commandment of love. The Gospel is taken from the Last Supper discourse. Jesus uses His favourite image of the vine and branches to help His disciples understand the closeness of their relationship with him and the necessity of their maintaining it.

There are many passages in the Old Testament that refer to Israel as the vine (Ps 80:8-16, Is 5:1-7, Jer 2:21, Ez. 15:1-8, 17:5-10, 19:10-14, and Hos. 10:1). Since the original chosen people has become a degenerate vine producing wild and bitter grapes, Jesus makes the unique claim that He is the true and ideal Vine and His disciples are the living and fruit-producing branches and His Heavenly Father is the Vine-grower, He (Christ) is the Vine, His disciples are branches and those

who do not abide in Him are useless branches, suitable only to be cut away and thrown into the fire. Jesus is the true Vine, because the old vine, the original chosen people, was succeeded by the new Vine, the Church, the Mystical Body whose Head is Christ (cf. 1 Cor. 3:9). To be fruitful, one must be joined to the new, true Vine, Christ. It is living the life of Christ, the life of grace, which gives the believer the nourishment which enables him or her to yield the fruits of eternal life. This image of the Vine also helps us to understand the unity of the Church. St. Paul explains that we are Christ's Mystical Body in which all the members are intimately united with the Head and united to one another (1 Cor. 12:12-26; Rom 12:4-5; Eph 4: 15-16).

Pruning is mentioned in the Gospel today. Pruning is an essential part of growing fruit-producing branches. Dead branches are cut away to save the vine. Other branches are pruned so that they would bear more grapes than leaves in the next growing season. Here, John describes God as the Vine-grower who has planted a vine, Jesus. He removes every branch that bears no fruit and prunes the other branches, so they may bear more fruits. Jesus tells His apostles that they have already been pruned by the words He has spoken to them. We need to abide in Jesus as a condition for fertility. Through His word, God brings to light our limitations, our defects, all that keeps us from producing fruits of love. Jesus tells us that we cannot bear fruit unless we abide in Him just as He abides in us. Abiding in Christ means that God has to be inside us and we have to be inside God. We abide in Christ by drawing near to God and by experiencing His being near to us; that is, by living every moment as He has commanded us to do, with radiant presence of Christ all around us.

Fruit-bearing in Christian life is not of our own independent and unaided making. The Holy Spirit who dwells within us trims and prunes us, teaching us Himself and reminding us of what Jesus taught. We also need to prune ourselves, cutting out of our lives everything that is contrary to the Spirit of Jesus and renewing our commitment to the Christian ideals in our lives everyday is the first type of self-pruning expected of us. We also prune ourselves by practising self-control over our evil inclinations, sinful addictions and aberrations. We have to prune ourselves of our selfish and prejudicial tendencies toward people who are different and treat others with charity and openness. Jesus prunes, purifies and strengthens us by allowing us to face pain and suffering, contradictions and difficulties with courage of our Christian conviction. We unite ourselves to Christ, the Vine, by personal and liturgical prayers, by frequenting the sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation; through daily and meditative reading of the Scripture. Selfless, loving acts of kindness and mercy and forgiveness enable us to abide in Jesus, the true Vine, as fruit-bearing branches. Happy Sunday!

### **FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH**

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

## ONLINE EVENTS

### THE MASS - WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT



This week we discussed the Bishop's videos introducing the Liturgy of the Eucharist and the Preparation of the Gifts. We transition from listening to the Word to the action of the Sacrifice.

Just as in the account of the Last Supper, there are four actions: Jesus **takes** the bread and wine, **gives thanks**, **breaks** the bread, **shares** it. This has the same form as the ritual animal sacrifices in the Jewish Temple; Jesus gives the meaning of his death: He is the lamb sacrificed for the forgiveness of sins.

Bread and wine are products of the labour of many people. These elements represent creation and us, our work, our community effort, our celebration.

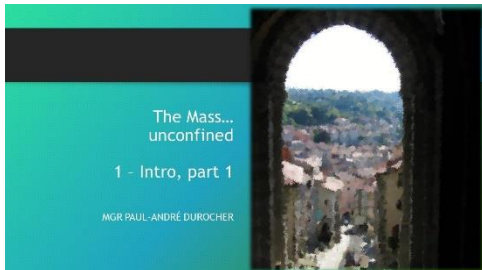
The mixing of the water and wine represents our humanity sharing in Christ's divinity and vice versa.

In certain grandeur celebrations, the incense honours the gifts, the altar, the people.

By washing his hands, the priest prays that he be washed of any sin that would obstruct his offering of this sacrifice.

For next week we will watch videos 26,27,28 at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VFAUYaSi4HM&list=PL9yp6nuVNMtiz1-7itdm2RgSYO114v4M&index=26>



### The Mass, Unconfined (26-28) - Intro I - YouTube

Archbishop Durocher launches a series of videos on the meaning of the Mass.

### 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 **April 22<sup>nd</sup> to June 3<sup>rd</sup>**. 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!

### **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 AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES FOR MAY**

Moe Lambert – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Blaise Foley – 10<sup>th</sup>  
Barbara Morey – 12<sup>th</sup>  
Judy Grandmaison – 13<sup>th</sup>  
Louise & Gord MacMillian – 15<sup>th</sup>  
Gail Nadeau – 17<sup>th</sup>  
Pauline Leduc & Mike Groulx – 18<sup>th</sup>  
Pat Prud'homme – 27<sup>th</sup>  
Paul Paiement Jr. – 28<sup>th</sup>  
Margaret and Gary Burns – 30<sup>th</sup>

Jim Brownrigg - 5<sup>th</sup>  
Avery Miller – 12<sup>th</sup>  
Moe Amyot – 13<sup>th</sup>  
Shirley Daly – 14<sup>th</sup>  
Pauline Leduc – 16<sup>th</sup>  
Ron Pearce – 18<sup>th</sup>  
Donna Escander – 26<sup>th</sup>  
John O'Farrell – 28<sup>th</sup>  
Nora Prud'homme – 28<sup>th</sup>

