

<p><b>Weekly Bulletin</b>  <b>St. Aloysius and St. Columban Bulletin</b>  <b>4th Sunday of Advent</b>  <b>December 19/20, 2020</b></p>
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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 1.26-38

**ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION**

**December 13: Regular Collection:** \$1420.

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.

**THE ARCHDIOCESE IS CHANGING ITS ONLINE DONATION PLATFORM (January 1<sup>st</sup>)**

For several years, the Archdiocese of Gatineau has offered a secure online donation platform on its website. As of January 1, 2021, a new platform will come into operation to replace the one currently in service. More user-friendly, the new platform will continue to make it possible to make a secure one-off or recurring donations to the diocese and to the 53 parishes of our Diocesan Church. As of January 2021, people who currently make online donations will have to register in the new platform and enter their contact details and the terms of their donation to their parish or the diocese. Existing contact details and monthly recurring donations **will not be transferred automatically into the new system**. Parishioners who have setup recurring monthly donations will receive an e-mail from the diocese in the coming weeks with further details. The new donation platform will be accessible on the diocese's website under the menu item **Donate now**. Should you have any questions or encounter issues in January, do not hesitate to contact our Finance Warden, Jim Brownrigg or the diocese directly for assistance.


Thank you in advance for your generosity!

**MASS Intentions:**

Sat. Dec. 19	4:30 p.m.	(St. Columban) For Kevin Burns by Marty, Amanda And Hannah
Sun. Dec. 20	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For Louise Lortie by Louise and Gord MacMillan For (8 <sup>th</sup> ) Ivka & (28 <sup>th</sup> ) Henry Zawadka by Their Family
Christmas Eve	7:00 p.m.	(St. Aloysius) For all parishioners
	9:00 p.m.	(St. Columban) For all parishioners
Christmas Day	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For all parishioners
Sat. Dec. 26	4:30 p.m.	(St. Columban) For all parishioners
Sun. Dec. 27	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For David Whitworth by Lorraine Whitworth

**2021 DONATION ENVELOPES ARE READY AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CHURCH**  
**If you don't have envelopes and would like some, speak with Jim Brownrigg at Mass or call or email the office.**

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE		
Christmas Eve, Dec. 24:	St. Aloysius St. Columban	7:00 p.m. (Register –see below) 9:00 p.m
Christmas Day, Dec. 25:	St. Aloysius	11:00 a.m. (Register–see below)
<b>NEW YEARS</b>		
January 1 <sup>st</sup>	St. Aloysius	11:00 a.m. (Register-see below)



**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)**

**CHRISTMAS MASS REGISTRATION**

Please find below the schedule for registering to attend mass in-person. Note that Christmas day and New Year's day will be limited to 25 people. On Christmas Eve, we will be able to accommodate up to 50 people - 25 in the church and 25 in the hall. You will be advised upon registration in which area you will be located. For those who will be in the hall, the mass will be broadcast live onto a large screen tv and you will be able to receive communion by the priest. An Usher will be available to assist with any questions or concerns.

**It is important that you read and follow the Directives for Attending Mass as found on our website: <https://www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/news-events>**

Date	Registration Begins	Registration Ends
December 24 <sup>th</sup>	December 11 <sup>th</sup> @9 am	December 23 <sup>rd</sup> @3pm
December 25 <sup>th</sup>	December 11 <sup>th</sup> @9 am	December 23 <sup>rd</sup> @3pm
January 1 <sup>st</sup>	December 11 <sup>th</sup> @9 am	December 30 <sup>th</sup> @3pm

\*Note: registration for regular Sunday mass must be done by 3pm Saturday

To register you must call the parish office or send an email including the names and phone numbers of all persons wishing to attend. You will receive confirmation if space is available. Priority seating in the church will be given to persons with limited mobility.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

**CONFESSION**

In preparation for Christmas, Fr. Albanus is available for individual confessions. Please call the office (819)663-5244 and book an appointment for confession.

**Note:** wearing of masks and other protocols are to be observed. Thanks.

## Hail, Full of Grace!

Today's readings focus on the circumstances leading up to the first coming of Jesus, the event which sets the pattern for his coming to us now and at the end of time. The Gospel stresses the key role of Mary in the work of our salvation. In addition, today's Scripture texts describe God's promise to David and its fulfillment in Jesus, the Son of David. They also tell us that God's preparation for the coming of Jesus was full of surprises. The unfolding of God's plan of salvation through history has contained many surprises. The first reading surprises us by telling of God's promise to David that he would have a long line of royal descendants culminating in a final King, Jesus Christ. In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 89), the Psalmist recalls all of God's promises and surprises describing God's promise to David and his descendants in terms of a Covenant. The second reading surprises us as well with Paul's explanation of the unveiling of God's plan for human salvation through Jesus.

Today's Gospel surprises us by telling us that this final King would be born to an ordinary virgin, not by means of sexual relationship, but through the Holy Spirit, and that this Son of God, Jesus, would become a descendant of David. This would occur through Joseph, Mary's betrothed husband and the legal father of her son, as Joseph was "of the House of David." The Gospel narrative also surprises us by reminding us that God's promise is best fulfilled not in buildings, or even in great kings like Solomon, but rather in humble souls like Mary who trusted in God's promise. Mary is the centre of God's special choice that entails innumerable blessings. This however asked of her a lot of sacrifices. The divine proposition that she would be the mother of the Son of God is very attractive but also fraught with contradictions. She cannot understand how she, as a virgin, could bear a child. She would no doubt have to face the fury of an orthodox Jewish society. What confusion for her!

With the angel's intervention Mary is assured of the power of the Holy Spirit in her life. She declares her 'fiat' and surrenders herself and her whole life to divine purpose, not as prisoner however, but freely, as a woman of faith. Sometimes the sacrifices our state of life may require of us may seem overwhelming to us; but we need not feel disheartened. Faith is the ingredient for us as it was for Mary. If we have faith, there is nothing that God cannot do for us. In this Gospel we see fulfilled the predictions made about Jesus. In the first place, Mary was to give to the child a name 'Jesus', a name given even before His conception. The Gospel says 'great will be his dignity': today we offer no higher dignity to anyone than we do to Jesus. Jesus would be called 'the Son of the Most High God': that which Christians have always believed. He will be given 'the throne of His father, David': Jesus embodies all the royalty of David and much more. The Gospel also says 'His reign will be without end': while David's reign lasted for forty years, Jesus reigns forever. This is what Christmas is all about. We celebrate the birth of One who is no ordinary child. We celebrate *Immanuel*, God is with us.

### **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**

### **PAINT NIGHT**

**Many Thanks** to Diane Joanisse for hosting the first Paint Night. By all accounts, it was a great success! Our inner artists were brought to light with lots of fun thrown in. Some the paintings can be seen on our Facebook page - have a look. Diane is willing to host another Paint Night in the near future. Stay tuned!

### **Trivia Take 2!**



After the fun had at our first Trivia Night, Michelle Cook Warden has kindly agreed to host a second round on Monday, December 28, 2020 at 3:00 pm. It seems that we have some competitive people who are itching to show off their skills. Who will be crowned the smartest this time? For more

details and to register please visit <https://www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/events/trivia-take-2> 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 AND ANNIVERSARIES IN DECEMBER**

George Lemieux - 4<sup>th</sup>

Mike Groulx - 8<sup>th</sup>

Bradley Burke - 20<sup>th</sup>

Paul & Adeline Gendron , 28<sup>th</sup> - 55<sup>th</sup>

Bob Nadeau - 5<sup>th</sup>

Carol Léonard - 16<sup>th</sup>

Lina O'Brien - 23<sup>rd</sup>

