

Weekly Bulletin
St. Aloysius and St. Columban Bulletin
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 17, 2021

Reading I	1 Samuel 3.3b-10, 19
Responsorial Psalm:	Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.
Reading II	1 Corinthians 6.13c-15a, 17-20
Gospel	John 1.35-42

***** Important Notice *****

The Quebec provincial government announced on January 6th, that they would be invoking a 5-week lockdown starting January 9th. As a result, St-Aloysius church will be closed for the duration of the lockdown. The parish will continue to operate but Wednesday and Friday morning Masses will be cancelled. Although the church is closed, Father Al will be permitted to say Mass alone on Sunday mornings at 11am and will broadcast the Mass via Zoom and FaceBook. To access the Mass via Zoom, click on the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/91088908876?pwd=QUVpRVFwNThJT1JOZjdqSHNPZTJoQT09>

Meeting ID: 910 8890 8876
Passcode: D8z45N

We will also continue to live stream the Mass on the St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish Community page on Facebook (viewing the Zoom 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 11am.

<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

January 10: No Collection

Collections during lockdown

While the church is closed for the next 5-weeks due to the provincial lockdown, our church continues to operate. As such, your weekly donations are still very much needed to cover our regular expenses during this time. Since we cannot meet in person, please take advantage of the diocesan on-line donation system to make your contributions (accessible via our web site under the Donations tab - Donate Now button) or drop off your collection envelopes through the mail slot at the office. You can also mail your donations/collection envelopes to us at St. Aloysius

Parish, 300 rue de l'Abbe-Murray, Gatineau, Qc J8P 4Z4. We appreciate your continued support during this time.

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 1st)

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!

ZOOM MASS Intentions:

Sun. Jan. 17	11:00 a.m.	For Murel Grenier by The Gatineau Friendship Club For Clifford Daly by his Mother, Shirley
Sun. Jan. 24	11:00 a.m.	For Muriel Grenier and Laura Dolcini by Bob & Gail Nadeau For John Cook by Michelle Warden Cook

2021 DONATION ENVELOPES ARE READY AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CHURCH If anyone who hasn't already picked up their envelopes and wishes to do so, they'll need to call the office to pick them up given the closure of the church. Thanks.

The Christian Vocation

Today readings speak of Divine vocation. Each of us is called by God to be a witness for Christ by doing something for others with our unique gifts and blessings. They, therefore, remind us of our personal and corporate call to become witnesses for Jesus, the *Lamb of God*, by leading lives of holiness and purity. The first reading describes the call of Samuel. It tells us how Yahweh called Samuel to His service and how the boy Samuel responded to Him, saying, "*Speak, Lord, for Your servant is listening.*" Samuel was called to communicate the will of God to the people as they were going through a difficult and uneasy period. God blessed him in the mission entrusted to him, and Samuel became an illustrious figure, ranking with Moses and David as a man of God. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 40), says, "*Here am I Lord, I come to do Your will,*" indicating that our vocation is to obey, to do what God commands us to do. In the second reading, St. Paul explains to the Corinthians that their Divine call is a call to holiness. They, thus, need to keep their bodies pure and souls holy because by Baptism they have become parts of Christ's Body and the temples

of the Holy Spirit. Sexual corruption, according to St Paul therefore, is totally incompatible with the life of the baptized because they are now united to Christ and are one with Him. The thoughts, words and actions of the call (baptized) have to be those of Christ.

The Gospel of Today describes the meeting that every person is invited to have with Christ. Christ has the message of eternal life and many can meet Him only if someone tells them about Him. In it, John the Baptist claims that his vocation is to introduce Jesus to two of his disciples as the "*Lamb of God*," an expression that recalls the Paschal Lamb, whose blood was smeared on the doorposts of the Jews to save them from death (Ex 12:13). The expression also suggests Jesus' vocation to become a sacrificial lamb to atone for our sins. Every time we celebrate the Eucharist, Jesus is presented to us with the words of the Baptist "*Behold, the Lamb of God*." The disciples followed Jesus to his residence, accepting his invitation to "*come and see*." They stayed with him that day. They called Him "*Rabbi*" which means 'master,' or 'teacher.' Then Andrew brought his brother Simon to Jesus, introducing Jesus to him as the *Messiah*.

This Gospel describing the call or vocation of the first apostles challenges us to invite others to Christ by our Christian witnessing. Our Christian vocation is to live and die like the *Lamb of God*. We do that by leading pure, innocent, humble, selfless lives, obeying Christ's commandment of love; by appreciating the loving providence and protecting care of the Good Shepherd in his Church; by partaking of the Body and Blood of the Good Shepherd in the Holy Eucharist and deriving spiritual strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the Sacraments. We are called to die like the *Lamb of God* by sharing sacrificially our blessings of health, wealth and talents with others in the family, parish and community; by bearing witness to Christ in our illness, pain and suffering through our graceful acceptance of all of it; by offering our sufferings for God's glory, as penance for our sins and for the conversion of sinners. Bearing witness to the *Lamb of God* requires a personal experience of Jesus as our Lord and Saviour. We get this personal experience of Jesus in our daily lives through the meditative reading and study of the Bible, through personal and family prayers and through our active participation in the Eucharistic celebration. Once we have experienced the personal presence of Jesus in our daily lives, we will start sharing with others the *Good News* of love, peace, justice, tolerance, mercy and forgiveness preached and lived by Jesus. This is what John the Baptist did. It is what Andrew did. Philip (Jn. 1: 45-51) and the rest of the Apostles also did that. We are all called to do the same. Happy Sunday!

2021 REGISTRATION FOR FIRST COMMUNION & RECONCILIATION

Preparation for Sacraments Registration

Note that a registration fee will be charged to cover the cost of materials and administration. Details will be provided at the first meeting.

Due to the pandemic, all meetings will be held virtually via Zoom.

First Communion and First Reconciliation:

Parents of children who are in grade 2 or older (7 years old or +) may register their child for First Eucharist and First Reconciliation. Please complete the form found on the website at <https://www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/firstcommunion> and return it by email to the parish

along with a copy of the child's baptismal certificate (if baptized in a parish other than St. Aloysius).

One of the best ways you can help your child prepare for sacraments as a family is to attend weekly Mass together. Please review the Directives for Attending Mass at <https://www.stalloysius-stcolumban.com/news-events>. Registration is required to attend in person, or the Mass may be viewed live on our Facebook page.

Contact Louise MacMillan (gordandlouisemacmillan@gmail.com) or the parish office if you have any questions.

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

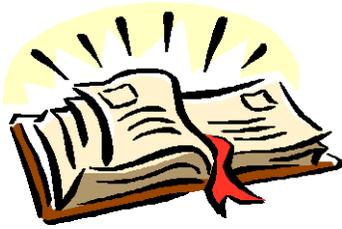
BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: ONLINE EXERCISES STARTING in JANUARY



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.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 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>

St. Al's Virtual Paint Nite: Banish the February Blues



Looking for a fun activity to break the monotony of a long winter? Join us on Saturday, February 6th, 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, log on 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 table top 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 <https://www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/events/st-als-virtual-paint-night-banish-the-february-blues>

BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

Alice Burich - 19th
Georgina Robert - 25th

Paulette Pearce - 26th
Mary Daly - 31st



Thank you from the Daly Family

The Daly Family would like to thank Father Al, St. Aloysius Parish, and The Friendship Club for the masses, prayers and sympathy cards for Clifford, whom we dearly loved, who passed away on January 1st, 2021.

Also your sincere gratitude and outpouring of support, when we needed it the most, we sincere thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Shirley Daly and Family



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, we felt it easier to give 28 families, with 64 children the assistance to make their Christmas more enjoyable. We particularly want to thank the School Children and Staff; The Canadian Legions, 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.