

Weekly Bulletin
St. Aloysius and St. Columban Bulletin
Palm Sunday
March 28, 2021

Gospel:	John 12.12-16
Reading I	Isaiah 50.4-7
Responsorial Psalm:	My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Reading II	Philippians 2.6-11
Gospel	Mark 13.1-15.47

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

The church is open for Sunday 11 a.m. mass allowing up to 250 attendees as per current pandemic provincial restrictions (St. Al's capacity is 60). 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's first mass for 2021 will be Easter Sunday April 4 at 9:00 am and it will return to Saturdays at 4:30 on April 10.

To all the faithful of the Archdiocese of Gatineau,

I want to encourage all members of our diocesan church to get vaccinated in order to protect the health of our people. It is a gesture motivated both by generosity towards others and by personal responsibility.

There is no moral reason not to get the vaccine. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith clarified this issue a few months ago. It was mandated by the Pope to study this of question, and I fully agree with its assessment.

Various conspiracy theories that claim these vaccines are a means of population control have no basis in fact.

Since the start of the pandemic, over 150 people have died from this disease in our region. Think of all those grieving families. Think of our children and grandchildren who have to mask themselves to go to school. Think of businesses that cannot reopen. Think of our parishes which are deeply challenged by the conditions we know. The only way to overcome this pandemic is for the entire population to get vaccinated.

If you've never suffered from diphtheria, smallpox or tetanus... if you don't know anyone who has died from whooping cough, measles or polio... it's because of the vaccines that brought these diseases under control. Let's add COVID-19 to this list.

I invite you to imitate our good Pope Francis and to get vaccinated!

Fraternally in Jesus Christ,

+ Paul-André Durocher

ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION

**March 21: Collection: \$828.10
 Development & Peace: \$161.50**

Financial update – how did we do in 2020 and what to expect in 2021

Given we have been unable to hold an Annual General Meeting due to pandemic restrictions, it is important for the Wardens Board to share with you a summary of our financial situation. Although 2020 was a very unique year in many ways, and the pandemic had an impact on our finances, we were able to successfully cover all our expenses and actually finish the year with a \$500 surplus. This was the result of the incredible generosity of parishioners and some close scrutiny on our operating expenses. The month of December revenues in particular allowed us to make up for the deficit we had been expecting up until then. Details of the 2020 revenues

and expenses are posted on the bulletin board at the front of the church for those who wish to see the actual numbers.

As for 2021, the diocese has approved our proposed budget which is slightly reduced overall from last year. Of note, and in order to create much needed new revenue generating options for the English parishes, the diocese has agreed to allow collections at funerals with the consent of the family. We have incorporated potential revenue in our 2021 budget from funeral collections to make up for the loss in hall rental and social event revenues this year given the on-going pandemic. A copy of this year's approved budget is also posted on the bulletin board at the front of the church.

I want to thank all of you for your continued financial support to the parish in these challenging times. As Finance Warden, I am comforted by the fact that our little community continues to step up, time and time again, when faced with difficult financial realities. Thank you.

Jim Brownrigg
Finance Warden

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 28	11:00 a.m.	First Anniversary Mass for David Whitworth by Lorraine For Clifford Daly by his brother, Peter
Wed. March 31	9:15 a.m.	For all parishioners
	11:00 a.m.	Virtual Chrism Mass (see message below)
Thurs. April 1	7:00 p.m.	Holy Thursday
Friday, April 2	3:00 p.m.	Celebration of the Passion of the Lord (Pre-registration)
Sat., April 3	7:30 p.m.	Easter Vigil
Sun. April 4	9:00 a.m.	(St. Colmban) For all parishioners
	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For all parishioners

CONFESSION

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

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

Invitation to “virtually” participate in the Chrism Mass, Wednesday March 31 at 11:00 AM

You are invited to participate online in the Chrism Mass which will take place on Wednesday, March 31 at 11:00 AM. During this celebration, Archbishop Durocher will bless the oil of catechumens, the oil of the sick and consecrate the holy chrism. The oils will then be distributed to the parishes. Here is the link of the Chrism Mass: https://youtu.be/-Y61xG_xwg0 . To access live, you must first subscribe to the page and activate the notification bell. Here's how :

- 1) Click on https://youtu.be/-Y61xG_xwg0
- 2) Click on "Subscribe"
- 3) Click on the little bell next to "Subscribe"

EASTER SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday:	St Aloysius	7 p.m.
Good Friday:	St Aloysius	3 p.m. (*Pre-registration required)
Easter Vigil:	OLV:	7 p.m.
	St. Aloysius	7:30pm
Easter Sunday:	St. Aloysius	11am
	St. Columban	9am
	St. Malachy	9am
	OLV	11am.

***Pre-registration is required for Good Friday Mass ONLY. Registration begins on Monday, March 29th at 9 a.m.**

All Masses at St. Aloysius will also be streamed on FaceBook LIVE.

Palm Sunday: A tale of Contrasting Moments

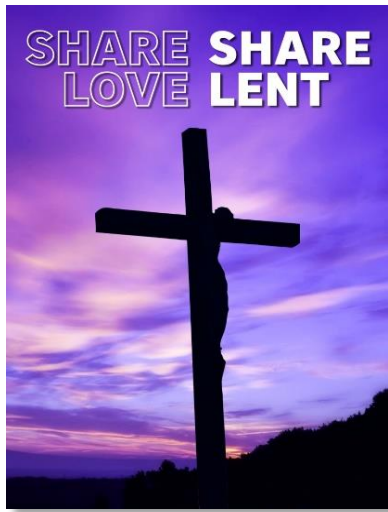
The Church celebrates the 6th Sunday of Lent as Palm or Passion Sunday. It ushers in Holy Week, a period of more intense preparation for Easter. During this time we remember and live the events which brought about our redemption and salvation. The Liturgies of the Holy Week enable us to experience in our lives here and now what Jesus went through then. Thus, we not only commemorate and relive the dying and rising of Jesus but also our own dying and rising in Jesus, which will result in our healing, reconciliation and redemption. We are enjoined to engage in attentive participation in the liturgies of this week. They will help to deepen our relationship with God, increase our faith and strengthen our lives as disciples of Jesus. Each of us is called to remember the Christ of Calvary and then to embrace and lighten the burden of Christ where passion continues to be experienced in the hungry, the poor, the sick, the homeless, the aged, the lonely, and the outcast (Kadavil, A).

In Palm Sunday, we experience contrasting moments, one of glory and the other, of suffering. In the same celebration, we combine the royal welcome of Jesus in Jerusalem and the drama of the trial, culminating in crucifixion, death and burial of Christ. We somehow find ourselves in the crowd on both days, shouting “Hosanna!” and later “Crucify Him!” The **first reading** is from third of the four Servant Songs of the Prophet Isaiah. The passage, like the rest of the songs, foreshadows Jesus’ own life and mission. The four songs are about the mysterious figure whose suffering brings about a benefit for the people. The Songs portray the antithesis of Israel’s messianic expectations, because Israel expected a triumphant Messiah while the prophet foresaw a “Suffering Servant Messiah.” They foretell Jesus’ conscious and active choice to remain faithful to His saving mission no matter what cost. In today’s passage, the Prophet speaks out in the name of one to come, the suffering Servant of God. *“The Lord God has opened my ear....I gave me back to those who struck me and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard....”* Early Christians discovered that these words were fully realized only in Jesus. The Responsorial Psalm (22): “My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?” plunges us into the heart of Christ’s Passion.

The **second reading** presents an ancient Christian hymn representing a very early understanding of who Jesus is, and of how His mission saves us from sin and death. In that letter to the Philippians, Paul speaks of Jesus as one who *“emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave. ...He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God highly exalted Him and gave Him the name that is above every name.”* The first part of **Today’s gospel** shows the first of the contrasting moments of today’s liturgy (i.e., glory). It describes the royal reception Jesus received from His admirers, who paraded with Him for a distance of two miles: from Mount of Olives to the city of Jerusalem. The crowds sang the “Hallel” Psalm (118 vs 26-27). The Greek word “*Hosiana*” originally meant “*save us now*” (2 Sam 14:4). On Palm Sunday, the people used the prayer “*Hosanna*” as a slogan of greeting. It meant “*God save the King of Israel*” or “*save us O God!*” (Kadavil, A). The second part of the Gospel shows the other contrasting moment (suffering). It presents the passion of Christ according to Mark. The long narrative challenges us to examine our own lives in the light of some of the characters in the Passion story – like Peter who denied Jesus, Judas who betrayed Jesus, Herod who ridiculed Jesus, Pilate who acted against his conscience as he condemned Jesus to death on the cross, and the leaders of the people who preserved their position by getting rid of Jesus.

Today’s gospel contains Mark’s final verses in his passion narrative. He concludes with these words: *“And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.”* The Centurion who was standing at the cross, as a witness to Jesus’ death, said; *“Truly this man was God’s Son!”* Hence Mark makes clear that the old era (represented by the temple curtain) had given way to the new. Jesus, the Son of God, begins a new and final era. It is an encouragement to us all who struggle to love God and neighbour and in doing so meet with suffering. We too will receive help from God; we, too, will be “highly exalted.” Right now we are in our passiontide. But victory will be assured. The love of Christ overcomes the world.

Share Love, Share Lent: Paschal progression.



Did you know that Development and Peace has organized a Lenten campaign every year since 1968?

Keeping up with the tradition, this year's campaign, *Share Love, Share Lent*, invites you to a final week of family fun, communal reflection, global solidarity and prayer.

Don't miss our special campaign Way of the Cross!

Catch the details and contribute at devp.org/lent.

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, and Diane Morey.

ONLINE EVENTS

A graphic for the '11:02 Prayer Campaign'. On the left, there are two red prayer cards. The first card asks 'Who in your life could you pray for?' and lists 'a friend', 'a family member', 'a co-worker', and 'a neighbour'. The second card is a prayer: 'Heavenly Father, I pray for my friends, my community, and for Alpha. Lord, let Your Kingdom come and Your will be done. Holy Spirit, come fill me today that I might share the love and Good News of Jesus to those around me. Amen'. On the right, a dark blue box contains instructions: 'Write down the names of the three people you would like to pray for and invite to explore faith on Alpha.', 'Set an alarm as a reminder to pray daily for them.', and 'Be open and expectant to see how God might use you.' There are icons for a pencil, an alarm clock, and a cross.

ALPHA is a place to explore the Christian faith with others. Our parish is offering an Alpha every Thursday night 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. starting April 8th and until June 17th. Though each one of us has the responsibility to make Jesus known, we find it hard to start a conversation about Jesus. That is why Alpha can be so helpful. We need but invite someone we

love to join the Alpha group at www.stalloysius-stcolumban.com/news-events Please take time to pray asking Jesus who you should invite and listen to Him.



THE MASS - WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT

We are happy to be taking a "Walk through the Mass" We listen to, and reflect on, "Mass Unconfined" by Archbishop Durocher. So far we have learnt a lot. But among these, what stands out for us now is: The idea that we come to mass as a community in the presence of God. We, as a community, are invited to participate in the salvific sacrifice of Christ which the mass perpetuates. We are aware of the sense of a community gathering; thus we greet each other, chat with one another and bring our needs, our circumstances, our world to the celebration; for Christ sacrificed Himself for the salvation of the world. It is

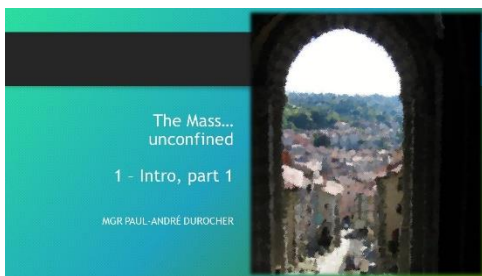
easy for us to understand the community aspect of our gathering. Understandably, we could have

some difficulty understanding the idea that we, as a community, are in the presence of God in Jesus Christ during Mass. We need to balance these two aspects of understanding our gathering at mass.

ACTION: We are urged to observe a period of silence, to dispose ourselves better for this personal and communal encounter with God through Christ who is our Head at the sacrifice of the Mass. We are urged to observe a period of silence five (5) minutes to the start of this Great Encounter.

Our next discussion on Wednesday at 3pm will be based on numbers 8-12 of Mass Unconfined. Please watch it on YouTube ahead of the discussion. Please register today at www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/events/the-mass and a link will be sent.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kug6_l83Z8c&list=PL9yp6nuVNMtiz1-7itdm2RgSYO114v4M



The Mass, Unconfined (1) - Intro I - YouTube

Archbishop Durocher launches a series of videos on the meaning of the Mass. Today, he starts with a story and a question. www.youtube.com

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: ONLINE EXERCISES (Spring session)

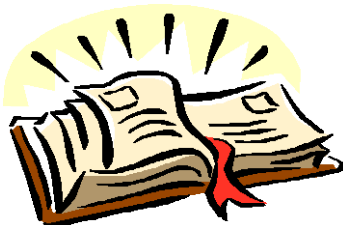


Diane Joanisse has kindly offered to do a second session of the online exercise classes. The classes will be every Thursday morning at 10:00am beginning **March 11th to April 15th**. Exercises are geared to every fitness level and equipment is not required. Register on our website at [https://www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/news-](https://www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/news-events)

[events](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 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.staloysius-stcolumban.com/newsevents>

BIRTHDAY FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

Marty Burns	- 2 nd
Fr. Al	- 5 th
Anne-Marie Plante	- 7 th
Diana Foley	- 18 th
Carole Douaire	- 26 th
Isabel Carolina St-Louis	- 20 th
Daphne Vachon	- 26 th
Cornelius Foley	- 29 th

