



St. Aloysius

300 rue l'Abbé-Murray,
 Gatineau, Quebec
 J8P 4Z4

October 19/20, 2019

St. Columban

311 St. Columban Rd.
 Gatineau, Quebec
 J8V 4E3

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday & Friday 9:15 a.m.

Pastor Rev. Albanus Ogowuihe
Secretary Carol Léonard
Office Hours: Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
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29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 19/20, 2019

Reading I Exodus 17.8-13
 Responsorial Psalm: Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
 Reading II 2 Timothy 3.14-4.2
 Gospel: Luke 18.1-8

ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION

October 13: \$771.00 Attendance: 50

ST. COLUMBAN COLLECTION:

October 12: \$297.00 Attendance: 25

Fri. Oct. 18	9:15 a.m.	For all parishioners
Sat. Oct. 19	4:30 p.m.	(St. Columban) 20 th Anniversary Mass for Guy Cyr by The Family
Sun. Oct. 20	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For Bert Braiden by Gatineau Friendship Club For Gilles Nadeau by Janice Nadeau
Wed. Oct. 23	8:00 a.m.	Eucharistic Adoration
	9:15 a.m.	For the health and happiness of Candy Forsyth by Cathy Forsyth Smith
Fri. Oct. 25	9:15 a.m.	For Fernand-Guy and Yvonne Bourdeau by Gord and Louise MacMillan
Sat. Oct. 26	4:30 p.m.	(St. Columban) For Arthur and Violet Foley by The Family
Sat. Oct. 27	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For Marie Cook by the Gatineau Friendship Club

Constancy in Prayer

Today's readings centre on prayer. They speak about perseverance in prayer, constancy in prayer and trust in God as we pray. They also speak about the justice of God that reaches out to the poor and weak enabling them to fight against injustice. In the first reading, Moses makes tireless intercession with constancy for the victory of Israelites in the war. As long as Moses keeps his arms raised, the Israelites do well, but when his arms lower, his army seems to be losing. Moses therefore “stays with his prayer” until the enemy is defeated. His persistence spells military victory for Israel. St Paul, in the second reading, tells Timothy to persevere in his ministry; to proclaim the word of God with persistence in all circumstances and to use it to *“teach, reprove, correct and train in righteousness.”* Jesus’ parable of the unjust judge and the persistent widow emphasizes the “necessity of praying always and not losing heart.” Constancy in prayer is Faith in action. The widow is a model of trust and tenacity for Christians.

Jesus, by this gospel, is not comparing God to the unjust judge thereby suggesting that he answers prayer only to avoid being bothered. The point being made by Jesus is that if a godless judge can restore justice to a person persistently pleading for redress, how much more will a God of justice surely act in favour of those who plead unceasingly with their hearts. In an age accustomed to instant coffee and instant results, we are impatient with what appears to be endless delays. To be noted, however, is that the values we cherish are not instantly available. Values like peace and justice take time to establish. The danger is that we give up too quickly, that we rest our case too easily. Persistence is needed: we have to

invest our time in what we believe. The parable, we remember, is told by Jesus to teach His disciples the need to pray always, without tiring. Prayer is a great and necessary means if one wants to keep one's faith, even during the most difficult and dramatic moments, when everything seems to be against us and against the kingdom of God.

Brothers and sisters, we need to combine formal prayers with active prayers. Our formal, liturgical prayers are important. Our personal prayers are important too. But bringing ourselves into God's presence during our works several times in the course of our day is also needed. There is a Latin adage 'laborare est orare'(to work is to pray). A consistent commitment to good in carrying out our daily duties is prayer of a sort; a very important one for that matter. A combination of formal prayers and prayers in action (active prayers) enables us to pray always and pray with constancy and trusting perseverance.

The prayer that today's Gospel speaks of is not a monotonous repeating of formulas. True prayer, the one that should never stop or be interrupted, consists in keeping up a constant dialogue with the Lord. It means never to take a decision without first speaking or consulting God, without first assessing with Him every event of our life. If we let down our arms (as in the first reading), we shall be immediately overwhelmed by adverse circumstances and when the Lord comes to save us, we shall be found without faith and unprepared to receive Him. Finally, we have to realize that God does not write a blank check thereby guaranteeing whatever we want in whatever forms we ask for it. He knows what we need and when we need it and how to give it. Sincere and persistent prayer makes us ready to accept his will. Such prayer reshapes our hearts to God's original design. Such prayer does not change God; instead it changes us. Prayer must become like eating and breathing. We have to eat daily. We also have to take breaths always. Happy Sunday!

ST. ALOYSIUS WEBSITE REDESIGN

You may have noticed that our website seems a bit outdated. We are looking at redesigning the website and would like to hear from you! We have volunteers who have offered to help us with the technical aspects of the website, however we would like to hear from the parish in regards to the content. What would you like to see in a new website? Please contact Carol, our parish secretary and provide her with your contact information and a member of the wardens board will contact you with next steps.

FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Please pray for the sick of our Parish: Ron Lortie, Roger Seguin, Phyllis Seguin, Jack Wiggins, Adeline Gendron and Dave Whitworth.