

Weekly Bulletin
St. Aloysius and St. Columban Bulletin
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 29/30, 2020

Reading I	Jeremiah 20.7-9
Responsorial Psalm:	My soul thirsts for you, O Lord my God.
Reading II	Romans 12.1-2
Gospel:	Mathew 16.21-27

ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION

August 23: \$800.00

MASS Intentions:

Saturday, August 29	4:30 p.m.	(St. Columban) For all parishioners
Sunday, August 30	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For David Whitworth by Lorraine
Wed. Sept. 2	9:15 a.m.	For all parishioners
Saturday, Sept. 5	4:30 p.m.	(St. Columban) For Louise Lortie by Amanda, Marty and Hannah Burns
Sunday, Sept. 6	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For Anne Milks by Gail and Bob Nadeau

MESSIAHSHIP AND DISCIPLESHIP

Today's liturgy calls us to reflect on messiahship and discipleship. Christians are called to live their lives in a different way from others around them. Christian discipleship demands honesty, the willingness to suffer ("*take up your cross*"), generosity ("*to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice to God*"), and readiness to follow Jesus by obeying his commandment of love. In the first reading, we see the Prophet Jeremiah, the prototype of the Suffering Christ.

The Prophet lives at a period of worsening political and religious situation under King Jehoiakim. There are unhealthy alliances, injustice, misappropriation of resources as well as religious externalism and concomitant lack of conversion of hearts and respect for the law of God. God therefore calls Jeremiah to warn the people. His words not only fall on deaf ears, but also arouse persecution against him. Due to his suffering, the prophet accuses God of tricking him and offers us a powerful description of someone suffering for obedience to his conscience. He feels abandoned by God and alone, an object of scorn and violent. In despair, he threatens to not speak in the name of God any more. Jeremiah is an archetype of those who carry out special mission in God's name. Like Jeremiah, God does not promise us an easy life without sufferings

and persecutions. But we need to be steadfast knowing that with God, we will emerge victorious like Christ.

In the second reading, Paul advises the Christians not to model themselves on the behaviour of the world around them. Christians must rather adopt an attitude of sacrifice in the worship of God. He urges *“Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice”* to God and *“discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect”* and do it even if it is not pleasing to human taste. In today’s Gospel, Jesus explains what Messiahship and discipleship really mean. He prepares his disciples for His approaching ordeal in Jerusalem which is necessary because it is according to the will of God made known through prophecies. Like Jeremiah, Jesus has to face the stark truth that His relationship with His Father involves personal anguish and suffering and rejection and will lead eventual death.

Peter is frankly appalled by Jesus’ statements and cannot accept the idea that the Messiah will be humiliated as the rabbis have taught the opposite. Having made a beautiful declaration that Jesus is the Christ, a title associated with victory and glory, Peter now denies that Jesus must suffer. He wants to remove suffering from the agenda. Jesus rebukes him, *“Get behind me, Satan.”* This is to nullify the temptation to Him to shrink from the work for which He had come. To really understand Jesus means to understand the cross. Peter here portrays himself in the light of a tempter; his ambition and desires belong to the realm of Satan, according to Jesus. Peter is moving in the direction exactly opposite to the plan of God; his proposal is according to the logic of man. This is in contrast to his role in last Sunday’s Gospel. While in the Gospel of last Sunday Peter as one inspired by the Father accepts His plan of salvation by professing his faith in Jesus and so becomes a living stone of the Church, in today’s Gospel he keeps thinking according to the logic of man and harbours thoughts of overpowering the enemies and similar ways of establishing God’s kingdom and becomes a stone that is an obstacle in the path. The Christ of Peter’s dream is all glory and prestige, untouched by vulnerable humanity.

Jesus therefore gives the conditions for those who want to follow Him. They must choose the way of the cross and self-immolation. To follow Him, one must give up personal ambition and selfishness and be aware of the needs of our brothers and sisters. The disciples must carry the cross with Jesus; that is, they must always follow the same path as Jesus did, live His ideals and accept being persecuted or ignored in order to remain faithful to the Gospel. To find life, we must have the courage to do as Jesus did: lose it for our brothers and sisters. This life is transient. The only thing a person takes with him/her at the end of life is the love s/he was able to give. Happy Sunday!

Seeking volunteers for Sanitizing Teams

The St. Aloysius COVID-19 deconfinement committee is looking for volunteers for its Sanitizing Teams. As we’ve re-opened the church and hall, it is under restrictions imposed by the provincial government and the diocese. We are currently operating under a 72-hour rule where use of the church and/or hall does not require sanitization if unused by multiple groups for 3 days. Hence the single weekly Mass on Wednesday morning and Sunday Mass on Sunday. As we approach September, in anticipation of additional requirements for the use of the church and the hall, we will likely not be able to ensure the 72-hour rule and thus will need to sanitize the church or hall

on as required basis. To do so, we need to establish Sanitizing Teams to disinfect the surfaces of the church and/or hall following events when a subsequent event is scheduled within the 72-hour window. To be clear, this is not cleaning the church or hall, as we have a custodial contract to do this on a weekly basis. Sanitizing is wiping down surfaces that people commonly have made contact with (tables, chairs, handrails, bathroom counters, doorknobs, etc.). A checklist and procedures will be established for these sanitizing requirements. Masks, gloves, and sanitizing products will be provided, and it is expected that a sanitizing session should not take more than an hour with a 3-person team.

So, we are looking for volunteers to create 3 or 4 sanitizing teams that can be assigned on a rotational basis as the need arises. If you have any questions about this requirement, or more importantly, wish to volunteer, please send an e-mail to Jim Brownrigg at jim.brownrigg@sympatico.ca or contact him at 819-243-0280. We thank you for your support.

The St. Aloysius Deconfinement Committee.

ST. COLUMBAN CEMETERY SERVICE

St. Columban cemetery service will be held Sunday 20 September at 2:00 p.m.

NEW WEBSITE

Over the past several months a small team has been working very hard to design a new website for St. Aloysius and St. Columban to replace the outdated and non-functional site currently in place. The new site has bright colours, beautiful photos, more information, and added functionality - it is a "sight" to see!

A very special thanks goes out to Mike McGrath for being our leader and brains on the website redevelopment project. He has spent countless hours to make this happen and we couldn't have done this without him! A big thank you to Carol Leonard for working closely with Mike to establish our needs and requirements, reviewing and testing as well. A round of applause to Michelle Cook and Angelina David for helping with the final review and system tests, their efforts were greatly appreciated. Finally, thanks to the Wardens Board for their guidance, input and support throughout this project.

The website will launch on **September 6th** and the new URL/address will be posted in the Bulletin, on posters within the church and on our Facebook page.

Stay tuned!

FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Please pray for the sick of our Parish: Adeline Gendron, Roger Seguin, Phyllis Seguin.

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS FOR AUGUST

Hilary Long	29 th
Dick Pickering	29 th
Erma Avon	31 st

BIRTHDAYS AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES IS SEPTEMBER

Carol & Pierre Léonard – 1st (41st)

Paul Paiement – 5th

Maurice Savage – 10th

Susan Arnold – 9th

George Avon – 14th

Pierre Léonard – 21st

Dan & Diane Ford – 5th (22nd)

Amanda & Marty Burns – 6th (17th)

Nancy & Moe Lambert – 8th (12nd)

Gaby & Mike McCann – 20th (51st)

Irene Lalonde – 22nd