



## St. Aloysius

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

**February 23, 2020**

## 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.  
**Telephone** 819-663-5244  
**Email:** st.aloysius@bellnet.ca



**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
*February 23, 2020*

Reading I                      Leviticus 19.1-2, 17-18  
Responsorial Psalm:        The Lord is merciful and gracious.  
Reading II                      1 Corinthians 3.16-23  
Gospel:                          Matthew 5.38-48

### ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION

February 16:

\$715.45

Attendance: 68

Sun. Feb 23	11:00 a.m.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ann. For Nobert Daly and 18 <sup>th</sup> for Cathy Daly By Shirley and Family
Tuesday, Feb. 25	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	Ash Wednesday Mass
Wed. Feb. 26	8:00 a.m.	Eurchasist Adoration
	9:15 a.m.	Ash Wednesday Mass
Fri. Feb. 28	9:15 a.m.	For all parishioners
	6:30 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Sun. March 1	11:00 a.m.	For Father Yves Masse by Moe and Nancy

**During this Lenten period, there will be Stations of the Cross every Friday at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to participate.**

### **FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH**

Please pray for the sick of our Parish: Diane Pearce, Roger Seguin, Phyllis Seguin, Jack Wiggins, and Dave Whitworth.

### **Love Beyond Boundaries!**

Today's readings explain why Christians are expected to be holy and how we are meant to become holy people. The first and second readings give us reasons why we should be holy. The first reading, taken from the book of Leviticus, teaches us that we should be holy because it is the command given to us by God through Moses: *"Be holy, for I the Lord, your God, am holy."* It also shows us the way to share in God's holiness: *"Love your neighbor as yourself."* The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 103) challenges us to be holy as our God is holy by becoming kind and merciful and forgiving. In the second reading, St. Paul gives us an additional reason to be holy. We are to keep our bodies and souls holy because we are the temples of the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit lives in us. St. Paul gives us an additional reason to be holy. We are to keep our bodies and souls holy because we are the temples of the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit lives in us.

The Gospel describes ways of becoming holy people prescribed for us by Jesus. Jesus deals with the question of how His followers should behave when faced with hurt and hatred. This is the continuation of Jesus teaching, The Sermon on the Mount, where He gives a radical interpretation of the Law. Jesus deals with the OT law of retaliation. The law 'eye for eye and tooth for tooth'(Lv 24:19f) was introduced as a legal practice to put a stop to never-ending feuds and avoiding excessive punishment. The law fixed the boundaries of vengeance, limited the retaliation to the penalty of the same injury so that there must be some proportion between the crime and the punishment. But Jesus goes beyond this law to say that the disciple must not be provoked into taking retaliation for the wrongs done

against him/her. The response of the disciples (followers) to wrong must not flow from another person's hostility but from the nature of their discipleship.

Jesus also confirms the ancient law that you should love your neighbour, but reject any interpretation of the Law that permits people to hate their enemy. The law enjoins the Israelites to love their neighbour, but a neighbour was understood to mean a fellow Israelite. He, thus, rejects this limitation of the love and asks his disciples to love the enemies. In this way, He lifts all limitation to love. That is Christian love; it excludes no one, not even the ones that persecute the disciple. The point that Jesus makes is that the love his disciples give people is not related to the love they receive from others. Love is not a social contract or a fair bargain. The disciple loves because that is what the nature of discipleship involves. A disciple should imitate the Father who does not withhold the sun and the rain from those who oppose him. Love is offered because that is what a disciple of the kingdom should do. His script proceeds from who he is, not from what he receives from others. Jesus loved even those who hated him. He stayed with love, a supreme value, because that emerged from who He was as the Son of the Father.

We need to love our neighbors and our enemies too; *Agápe* love is a choice more than a feeling. We choose to love, not because our enemies deserve our love, but because Jesus loves them so much that he died for them. We have in the *Acts of the Apostles* the example of St. Stephen, the first martyr, who prayed for those who were putting him to death. We need to have a forgiving heart. Jesus demands that we should forgive, pardon and be generous whether or not our offenders deserve it, and even if we are not loved in return. He also tells us to pray for those who willfully cause us suffering, hardship and unhappiness. We are to try to be perfect, to be like God. We become perfect when we fulfill God's purpose in creating us, i.e., when we become Godlike by cooperating with His grace. We become perfect when we try to love as God loves, and forgive as God forgives and to show unconditional good will and universal benevolence as God does.

An impossible demand? Happy Sunday!



**PANCAKE SUPPER:** On Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in the parish hall for our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. As usual, the meal will be free, however we ask that you get a ticket, so we can better calculate the quantities needed and have no shortage. Get your ticket from our Social Warden, Ann Marie Plante 663-0295, Susan Arnold or Carol. We will accept donations at the door. **Please note: The Ash Wednesday service will follow at 7:30 p.m.**

## **ST. COLUMBAN Closed for January and February**

St. Columban will close during the months of January and February 2020.

The first Mass of 2020 will be celebrated on **March 7th**.

### **This Share Lent, let's stand in solidarity with the defenders of the Earth**



This year, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada is encouraging us to support all those in the Amazon and the Global South who are caring for God's creation. How can we help?

- 1) **Donate** online at [devp.org/give](https://devp.org/give) or give during the Solidarity Sunday collection on March 29, the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent. Your generosity helps support over 149 projects in 36 countries around the world!
- 2) **Read** Development and Peace's Share Lent literature and **watch** the videos to learn about and hear from the guardians of the Earth.
- 3) **Sign the Solidarity Letter** addressed to two embattled Brazilian communities at [devp.org/act](https://devp.org/act).

For more information, please contact Louise MacMillan at 819 643-1156 or [gordandlouisemacmillan@gmail.com](mailto:gordandlouisemacmillan@gmail.com).

## **OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY**

Our deepest sympathy to Kielback Family on the passing away of Marie's mother, Loretta Michon. Her funeral was held in Montreal last week. May she rest in peace.