

Weekly Bulletin
St. Aloysius and St. Columban Bulletin
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 22/23, 2020

Reading I	Isaiah 22.15, 19-23
Responsorial Psalm:	Your steadfast love O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.
Reading II	Romans 11.33-36
Gospel:	Mathew 16.13-20

ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION

August 9:	\$752.00
August 16:	\$705.64

MASS Intentions:

Saturday, August 22	4:30 p.m.	(St. Columban) For Mark Foley by Marty, Amanda and Hannah Burns
Sunday, August 23	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For Doreen Harney by Lorraine Whitworth
		Anniversary Mass for Real Plante by Ann Marie Plante
Wed. August 26	9:15 a.m.	For all parishioners
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

The Source of All Authority

The main theme of all three readings is that God is the Source of all authority. God shares His authority with elected civil rulers to serve the people, and with the Pope and the other Church leaders for the material and spiritual welfare of His children. The **first reading** describes the authority given to Eliakim, the son of Hilkiah. This was during the reign of King Hezekiah. Shebna, the former prime minister was proud and cheated and so was removed and replaced with the humble and faithful Eliakim. Eliakim was decorated with the robe, the sash and had the key of the house of David placed on his shoulders. These are the insignia of his office. To receive the keys means to have full power in the place of the king, authority to administer his property and to decide who was to be received and who should be kept out of the palace. His authority is described as "he shall be father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah." His is not like the power of the selfish politicians. It is not an authority to do and impose what one likes and even less a right to receive honours and privileges. It rather consists in being like a father ever ready to sacrifice for his children.

This first reading prepares us for the Gospel where we are told that Jesus gave the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven to Peter, the first Pope. In today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 138), David thanks God for having raised him from lowly origins and given him authority as king over the people of Israel. In the **second reading**, St. Paul praises God for the depth of His wisdom and knowledge and correct judgments, and asserts that He is the Source of all authority on earth and in Heaven.

The **Gospel** presents Peter's confession of faith in Jesus, the Son of God and Messiah and Jesus' conferral of teaching and ruling authority in the Church, to Peter. Peter as we know is first in all the lists of the apostles. He is the spokesman for the apostolic college and their acknowledged ruler. Peter's name is changed from Simon to "Peter," a name which means "Rock" (from Aramaic 'Cephas' and Greek 'Petros'). He says, "On this rock, I will build my Church." Jesus is here referring to the faith in Him that Peter has professed. This faith constitutes the solid foundation of the Church. It makes it invincible and capable of dominating the forces that may rise against it forever. All those who, like Peter, will profess the faith in Christ-Jesus Son of the living God, are becoming part of this solid building that will never fall. The "gates of the underworld" refers to the forces of evil, what is contrary to the life and wellbeing of humans and is not to be understood in the material sense. Nothing can stop the Church that believes firmly in Christ from accomplishing its mission of salvation.

The teaching authority (magisterium) is established by Jesus to serve the spiritual and physical needs of the church members. Jesus says "I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven." Like Eliakim, Peter is given the keys too. By this, He gives Peter and his successors the power to 'bind and loose' (terms which mean to forbid and to permit) which means the power to make laws and exercise authority in the Church, and the assurance that their decisions will be ratified in Heaven. The Petrine authority however does not consist in having privileges and honours nor does it have the similarity with that of the political leaders and kings. Peter is to function as the great unifier, the one who holds the different factions together to live up to the name of "rock." The best way to describe the ministry of the Pope comes from St Irenaeus of Lyons who called the bishop of Rome, 'the one who presides over charity.'

Given the division in the Church today as always, the universal community of Christians clearly needs the Petrine figure, who will summarise in himself the unity of the whole Church. No doubt, the role of the papacy is at the centre of discussion in regard to all the Christians. We believe that being in communion with the Pope, the Petrine figure, is as important today as it was in the early Church. Keys open doors as well as close them; they give access as well as prevent it. Christians hope that the Petrine figure can still become the great symbol of unity in the Church by using his authority in the service of unity, like Peter. The Pope functions as the great unifier, the one who holds the different factions together, the one who is the first in the defence of those who have received a mission from God to spread the Gospel. In this way he lives up to the new name given to Peter, "the Rock." 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.

FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

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

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS FOR AUGUST

Cassandra Burns	22 nd
Cole Dumaresz	26 th
Charlie and Hilary Long	27 th (married 43 yrs.)
Hilary Long	29 th
Dick Pickering	29 th
Erma Avon	31 st