

Weekly Bulletin
St. Aloysius and St. Columban Bulletin
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 5/6, 2020

Reading I	Ezekiel 33.7-9
Responsorial Psalm:	O that today you would listen to the voice of the Lord. Do not harden your hearts!
Reading II	Romans 13.8-10
Gospel:	Mathew 18.15-20

ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION

August 30: unavailable

MASS Intentions:

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 For Marina David by her family
Wed. Sept. 9	9:15 a.m.	For all parishioners
Sat. Sept. 12	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) Funeral Mass of David Whitworth
	4:30 p.m.	(St. Columban) For Rita Savoie by Gail Burns
Sun. Sept. 13	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For Ann Milks by Barbara Morey and Family

Resolving Conflicts and Fraternal Correction in Love

Today's liturgy reminds us of our responsibility towards others in our families, parishes and communities. As children of God, brothers and sisters in Christ, we are responsible for one another. This individual responsibility in a Christian society includes fraternal correction of other members and our obligation to forgive our offenders and to ask forgiveness from others for our offences. In the first reading, God tells Ezekiel that he is to be a "*watchman for the house of Israel.*" Ezekiel is called to serve as a "sentry" for the house of Israel. A sentry is a soldier who guards the army camps, one who watches so that his army may not be attacked by surprise. The Prophet as "*a sentry*" is obliged to warn Israel of moral dangers. If Ezekiel should refrain from speaking God's word intended to convert the wicked, God will hold him responsible for the death of the wicked. If he warns the wicked, but they refuse to heed his warning, then the Prophet is not guilty. In the second reading, St. Paul points out that the love we should have for one another should be our only reason for admonishing and correcting the sinner. Love seeks the good of the one who is loved. Paul reminds us that love requires that we should watch out for one another's souls, and love specifies the manner in which our watchful care of one another should be conducted. Therefore, we should admonish one another so that we all may repent and grow in holiness.

The Gospel highlights one of the most painful responsibilities that we have towards others, namely fraternal correction. Christian charity obliges us to correct and counsel our brother or sister who has damaged the community by his or her public sin. Jesus teaches that as Christians, we are all God's prophets, God's representatives, God's watchmen, set on elevated places to give warning of approaching danger to our brothers and sisters. The prophets of all times have a grave responsibility for their people's salvation. None of us can retire from the task of being watchmen. The law "*love your brothers and sisters*" certainly demands that we should try to help them to return to the right path. But how do we do this? Jesus offers a three-step way. The first step, which is most delicate and sensitive, requires us to go to our brother or sister and speak to him/her personally. If our first attempt fails, we should ask the help of one or two brothers and sisters of the community. The good and recovering of our brother or sister must always be the motive. The last stage which involves recourse to the community should take place only in cases when the sin committed may risk upsetting all the brothers and sisters, especially the weaker in faith.

This act of confronting should not aim at humiliating him/her but reconciling with him/her. Just as conflict is sure to happen in a community of sinners, so confrontation can sometimes be the only language of love. The refusal to confront is the refusal to love. *If love faces the real, it cannot avoid facing conflict. Where silence would permit greater division in the community, love must do something.* Edmund Burke says "*All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.*" (Unknown). Doing nothing in the face of wrongdoing and hurt is precisely what the Gospel opposes. Each of us is a prophet and therefore a 'sentinel', responsible somehow for what happens to our brothers and sisters. Whoever sees somebody misbehaving cannot repeat Cain's words "*Am I my brother's keeper*" (Gen. 4:9).

Jesus suggests too that the brother or sister should be considered like a pagan or a tax collector should s/he refuse to correct him/herself. This sounds a bit out of a place in the mouth of Jesus who was proud of being called the friend of tax collectors and sinners (Mt. 11:19). The community has certainly no right to send away one of its misbehaving members. But she (the Church) has the right and power to denounce or condemn people (members) who call themselves Christians but act in ways that are incompatible with the Gospel message. The decision of the Church (community) will be the decision of God. Having inspired the Church (community) in her decision, God will also honour her judgement. It is part of the Church's ministry of "binding and loosing" entrusted to Peter and the Church (Mt 16:19) which we read last Sunday but one; "*for where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.*" (Mt. 18:20). 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

After many months of hard work, it's finally here!! The St.Aloysius and St.Columban website is officially launched! Please take a moment to visit and bookmark the new site at:

<http://www.stalloysius-stcolumban.com>

Don't forget to share the website with your friends and family. Again, a big shout out to the team of parishioners who worked so hard on building this site: Mike McGrath, our technical and development guru; Carol Leonard, our guiding light and the brains that keeps the wheels turning; Michelle Cook and Angelina David our fantastic testers and reviewers. We are blessed to have you in our parish and for sharing your gifts with us. THANK YOU!

Any questions or comments regarding the website can be directed to Julie McCann, Public Relations Warden (jdmccann@videotron.ca)

Also a big THANK YOU to Julie McCann, who put in many many hours organizing and being our go between the Boards and Website team. We couldn't have done it without you.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy to the MacMillan family on the passing away of Gord's sister, Sandra McLean.

May she rest in peace.

FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

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

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

This year we have a wonderful group of 9 Confirmation candidates now ready to receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit. Archbishop Durocher will be presiding over the Confirmation on Wednesday, September 16th at 7:00 pm at St. Aloysius. Please pray for each of the candidates as they continue on their journey of faith. They are:

Daphne Vachon
Angelina David
Samuel Leblanc
Isabel Carolina St-Louis
Jason Lecuyer
Philippe Lecuyer
Stephanie Lecuyer
Carole MacMillan
Caitlin Wylie

BIRTHDAYS AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES IS SEPTEMBER

Carol & Pierre Léonard – 1st (41st)
Dan & Diane Ford – 5th (22nd)
Paul Paiement – 5th
Maurice Savage – 10th
Amanda & Marty Burns – 6th (17th)
Susan Arnold – 9th
Nancy & Moe Lambert – 8th (13th)
George Avon – 14th
Gaby & Mike McCann – 20th (51st)
Pierre Léonard – 21st
Irene Lalonde – 22nd