

Weekly Bulletin St. Aloysius and St. Columban Bulletin Easter Sunday April 4, 2021

Reading I Acts 10.34a, 37-43

Responsorial Psalm: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Reading II Colossians 3.1-4 Gospel John 20.1-18

*** Important Notie - UPDATE ***

The church is open for Sunday 11 a.m. mass allowing up to 25 attendees as per current pandemic provincial restrictions.

Pre-registration for Sunday and all Holy Week masses is now required. Please contact the office to register at 819-243-0250 or email at st.aloysius@bellnet.ca

Disposable tri-fold masks are now mandatory (FABRIC or CLOTH MASKS ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTABLE), as per diocesan directive.

Social distancing of 2 meters between individuals must be maintained. Upon arrival and during mass, attendees are not to move about in the church but must remain in their pews. During communion, those wishing to receive the eucharist are to stand in their pew and wait for a eucharistic minister to bring the eucharist to them.

Wednesday morning mass will follow the same protocols as Sunday mass.

For those unable to attend the Sunday mass in person or Holy Week Masses, we will continue to live stream the mass on St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish Community page on Facebook (viewing the LIVE mass as it takes place). Make sure to "like" and "follow" our FaceBook page (see link below) to be able to view the live stream at 11 a.m.

https://www.facebook.com/StAloysius-Gonzaga-Parish-Community-141740569252256

The live stream will be saved on the FaceBook page to be viewed at any time.

We will keep you informed of any changes as they arise.

St. Columban's first mass for 2021 will be Easter Sunday April 4 at 9:00 am and it will return to Saturdays at 4:30 on April 10.

To all the faithful of the Archdiocese of Gatineau,

I want to encourage all members of our diocesan church to get vaccinated in order to protect the health of our people. It is a gesture motivated both by generosity towards others and by personal responsibility.

There is no moral reason not to get the vaccine. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith clarified this issue a few months ago. It was mandated by the Pope to study this of question, and I fully agree with its assessment.

Various conspiracy theories that claim these vaccines are a means of population control have no basis in fact.

Since the start of the pandemic, over 150 people have died from this disease in our region. Think of all those grieving families. Think of our children and grandchildren who have to mask themselves to go to school. Think of businesses that cannot reopen. Think of our parishes which are deeply challenged by the conditions we know. The only way to overcome this pandemic is for the entire population to get vaccinated.

If you've never suffered from diphtheria, smallpox or tetanus... if you don't know anyone who has died from whooping cough, measles or polio... it's because of the vaccines that brought these diseases under control. Let's add COVID-19 to this list.

I invite you to imitate our good Pope Francis and to get vaccinated!

Fraternally in Jesus Christ,

+ Paul-André Durocher

ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION

March 28: Collection: \$730

Financial update – how did we do in 2020 and what to expect in 2021

Given we have been unable to hold an Annual General Meeting due to pandemic restrictions, it is important for the Wardens Board to share with you a summary of our financial situation. Although 2020 was a very unique year in many ways, and the pandemic had an impact on our finances, we were able to successfully cover all our expenses and actually finish the year with a \$500 surplus. This was the result of the incredible generosity of parishioners and some

close scrutiny on our operating expenses. The month of December revenues in particular allowed us to make up for the deficit we had been expecting up until then. Details of the 2020 revenues and expenses are posted on the bulletin board at the front of the church for those who wish to see the actual numbers.

As for 2021, the diocese has approved our proposed budget which is slightly reduced overall from last year. Of note, and in order to create much needed new revenue generating options for the English parishes, the diocese has agreed to allow collections at funerals with the consent of the family. We have incorporated potential revenue in our 2021 budget from funeral collections to make up for the loss in hall rental and social event revenues this year given the ongoing pandemic. A copy of this year's approved budget is also posted on the bulletin board at the front of the church.

I want to thank all of you for your continued financial support to the parish in these challenging times. As Finance Warden, I am comforted by the fact that our little community continues to step up, time and time again, when faced with difficult financial realities. Thank you.

Jim Brownrigg Finance Warden

NOTICE ABOUT YOUR ST. AL'S WARDENS.

There is currently one position to be filled, the Public Relations Warden.

Two other positions were coming due as well; The Finance Warden and the Social Warden; both Jim Brownrigg, Finance Warden and Ann Marie Plante, the Social Warden, have accepted to continue to serve us for the next three years. The Board asks for anyone interested in the position of Public relations warden, contact Carol, our parish secretary, or Robert Nadeau at 819-663-6366, or email Bob at rgnadeau@outlook.com.

The duties of the Public relations Warden include:

- a) As required, forms and chairs a Public Relations committee to help in performing his/ her duties.
- b) Responsible for the maintenance of content and layout of the parish web-site and social media.
- c) In coordination with the Board, publicizes Parish-related information through various ways.
- d) Responsible for sending thank you cards or letters on behalf of the Board for special services or gifts.

The person accepting this position, will be part of a great team for two years, serving our Parish. The Board is asking you to help complete our team. Thank you.

MASS Intentions:

Friday, April 2	3:00 p.m.	Celebration of the Passion of the Lord (Pre-registration)
Sat., April 3	6:30 p.m.	Easter Vigil
Sun. April 4	9:00 a.m.	(St. Columban) For all parishioners
	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For all parishioners
Wed. April 7	9:15 a.m.	For Emilia da Cruz by The Family
		For Florian Cayer by Ann Smits
Sat. April 10	4:30 p.m.	(St. Columban) For Robert Lalonde by Gail Burns
Sun. April 11	11:00 a.m.	(St. Aloysius) For Todd Milks by Barb Morey
		For Clifford Daly by his sisters, Donna, Olive & Lucy
		For Sheila Berrea by her Family

EASTER SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday: St Aloysius 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday: St Aloysius 3 p.m. (*Pre-registration required)

Easter Vigil: St. Aloysius 6:30 p.m.
Easter Sunday: St. Aloysius 11a.m.
St. Columban 9 a.m.

*Pre-registration is required for ALL MASSES at st.aloysius@bellnet.ca

All Masses at St. Aloysius will also be streamed on FaceBook LIVE.

He is Risen!

Today is Easter Sunday! Easter is the greatest and most important feast in the Church. The Resurrection is the basis of our Christian faith (I Cor. 15:14). It proves that Jesus is God. It is the greatest of the miracles. It is the central theme of the preaching of the Apostles. Jesus prophesied His Resurrection as a sign of His Divinity (Jn. 2:19). It is because of their conviction about Jesus' Resurrection that the Apostles and early Christians could face martyrdom. They would not have done that for a dead leader lying in the tomb. Easter is the assurance of our own resurrection (Jn.11:25-26). It is a feast that gives us hope and encouragement in this world of pain, sorrows and tears; it reminds us that life is worth living. Our belief in the Real Presence of the Risen Jesus in our souls, in the Church, in the Blessed Sacrament, and in Heaven gives meaning to our personal as well as our communal prayer and gives us strength to fight against temptations and freedom from unnecessary worries and fears. Today's readings all speak about this greatest miracle.

The **first reading**, from the Acts of the Apostles, is taken from one of the speeches of St. Peter. He is speaking to a group of newly baptized members of Cornelius' family. In it, St Peter shares his own experience of Christ's Resurrection and its joy. He summarises the whole Christian message in a few words: Jesus was a real man who went around doing good and healing the sick; they killed Him by nailing Him on the Cross. God reacted to the wickedness of humans by not leaving His Faithful Servant in the grip of death and raising Him from the dead. Peter also speaks of the mission of the disciples as witnesses to all this. He therefore calls us to reflect on the fundamental truth of our faith: the Resurrection of Christ. He also reminds us of our mission as witnesses to the Resurrection. The Apostles were witnesses because they had been with Jesus after His Resurrection, eaten and drunk with Him, heard His teaching, and had seen His miracles. We may not have really seen or heard all these, but we can still be witnesses to Christ. After our baptism, we should no longer harbour hate, violence, grudges, envy, addictions etc, all the deeds of death. All these must disappear. We must live like risen people and this will give us the right to witness that Christ is alive. Our testimony will be indubitable as it is founded on verifiable facts and events. St Paul reminds the Colossians (in the second reading) that by virtue of their baptism, they were born to a new life, a life that will reach perfection and total fulfillment not in this world

but in the world of God. Good works and deeds are the marks and indicators of this new life in us.

The Gospel explains the empty-tomb-experience of Mary Magdalene, Peter and the other Apostle. The experience stirs Mary back to life and shakes the apostles out of their slumber and gets them all excited. On that Easter day, life flares up once again; God has intervened and bursts open the tomb! Alleluia! Our world still has places and situations where death reigns unchallenged and stillness proclaims victory. Power, force, discrimination, injustice, guile, seem at times to rout the forces of life and people feel paralysed and powerless to oppose evil. We need to avoid discouragement and passivity in the face of evil as this is incompatible with faith in the resurrection of Christ. Easter is the beginning of new things. Contrary to the mentality of the time it is through a woman that God first announces to the world that death has been given a blow. Resurrection is about seeing our world in a new way: Mary did not find what she was looking for, the dead body of Jesus; but she found something better than she could have imagined, the Risen Jesus. Sometimes, the things we want most are not granted to us. What we get instead is an experience of God's new ways of working in our world. The unnamed disciple saw and believed.' Each of us is expected to be this disciple and act in the same faith of this disciple. The message of Easter is: the life we give up for our brothers and sisters does not end in death or destruction. It does not end with death but leads to the fullness of life in God. Do we see only the signs of death or do we recognize the signs of resurrection like the unnamed disciple? Happy Easter!

Thank you for sharing love this Lenten season!



The *Share Love, Share Lent* campaign called you to share love, and you opened your hearts.

Our parish raised \$181.50 for Development and Peace! This money will help sustain programs and projects that serve some of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers in the Global South!

Thank you for your generosity.

If you have not already done so, please consider making a donation at devp.org/lent.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy to George and the Lemieux Family on the passing away of George's mother, Ellen this week.

May she rest in peace.

FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Please pray for the sick of our Parish: Atreyu Harvey, Rita Lacelle, Adeline Gendron, and Diane Morey.

ONLINE EVENTS



ALPHA is a place to explore the Christian faith with others. Our parish is offering an Alpha every Thursday night 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. starting April 8th and until June 17th. Though each one of us has the responsibility to make Jesus known, we find it hard to start a conversation about Jesus. That is why Alpha can be so helpful.

PLEASE invite that person you have been praying for to join our Alpha session. It starts this Thursday April 8th at 7:00 p.m. Tell him or

her to go to www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/news-events to register and a link will be sent.



THE MASS - WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT

Once again, we learned a lot by watching sessions 9-12 of Bishop Durocher's teaching 'The Mass Unconfined'.

DID YOU KNOW that the opening hymn is not just an "old favorite" but it actually gives the tone for the rest of the celebration, whether that is one of expectation in Advent, penance in Lent, exultant joy in Easter, etc. It gathers the whole singing congregation in one celebrating body. If there is no hymn, the Entrance Antiphon is read with that same purpose.

DID YOU KNOW that when we draw the Sign of the Cross on our body, vertically and horizontally, we are embodied with Jesus, receiving the gift of His life and making that gift our own life lived in one Name, Father, Son, Spirit, a community of love. Our Baptism is recalled: we are plunged in God's love and we answer Amen. The mystery of the Cross is what we agree to live.

DID YOU KNOW that with the Penitential Rite we recognize that God's mercy is a gift that we need individually but also we do this Rite as a community acknowledging that as a people we need God's healing.

You are invited to listen to sessions 13, 14 and 15 at

www.youtube.com/watch?v=eWNCqjzVsGE&list=PL9yp6nuVNMtiz1- 7itdm2RgSYO114v4M&index=13 which we will be discussing Wednesday April 7th at 3:00 p.m. Register at www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/news-events and a link will be sent to you to join the conversation.



The Mass, Unconfined (1) - Intro I - YouTube

Archbishop Durocher launches a series of videos on the meaning of the Mass. Today, he starts with a story and a question. www.youtube.com

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: ONLINE EXERCISES (Spring session)



Diane Joanisse has kindly offered to do a second session of the online exercise classes. The classes will be every Thursday morning at 10:00am beginning **March 11**th **to April 15**th. Exercises are geared to every fitness level and equipment is not required. Register on our website at https://www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/news-

<u>events</u> There is no fee to register, however donations to the parish would be greatly appreciated. Get a healthy start to your day with friends!

Note: if you registered for the previous session you must register again for the classes in March.

A MIND-OPENING way to spend a Monday evening.



Pauline Leduc is hosting a Monday evening at 7:pm session on Reflection on Scriptures. The participants are asked to read over the scriptures for the up-coming Sunday. Everyone is asked to take a few minutes to really reflect on what is written. The discussions that follow are very heartfelt and mind opening.

We are finding that each participant, when celebrating the mass the following Sunday, listens to and understands the homily more meaningfully. Join us by Registering on our web site. http://www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/newsevents

BIRTHDAY FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

Marty Burns	-2 nd
Fr. Al	- 5 th
Anne-Marie Plante	- 7 th
Diana Foley	- 18 th
Carole Douaire	- 26 th
Isabel Carolina St-Louis	- 20 th
Daphne Vachon	- 26 th
Cornelius Foley	- 29 th

