

Weekly Bulletin
St. Aloysius and St. Columban Bulletin
2nd Sunday of Lent
February 28, 2021

Reading I	Genesis 22.1-2, 9-13, 15-18
Responsorial Psalm:	I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.
Reading II	Romans 8.31b-35, 37
Gospel	Mark 9.2-10

***** Notice *****

The church is now open for Sunday 11am mass allowing up to 25 attendees as per current pandemic provincial restrictions. Pre-registration for attending will be required to secure one of the 25 available spots in the church. Registration for Sunday Masses will begin on Wednesday mornings at 9am until the 25 spots have been filled (requests received beforehand will not be considered). Please e-mail the church at st.aloysius@bellnet.ca or call directly at 819-663-5244 to request your spot. Your attendance will need to be confirmed (via return e-mail or phone call) for you to attend the upcoming Sunday Mass.

Wednesday morning Masses has also resumed with a maximum of 25 attendees as well. Pre-registration for Wednesday morning mass will not be required but contact information will be recorded before mass.

We will not be broadcasting Sunday mass via Zoom given the increased attendance limit of 25 but we will continue to live stream the mass on the St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish Community page on FaceBook. Make sure to "like" and "follow" our FaceBook page (see link below) to be able to view the live stream at 11am.

<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 will be closed for the months of January, February and March.
First mass for 2021 will be Sunday April 4 at 9:00 am (TBC)

ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION

February 22: \$465.00
Development & Peace: \$20

Collections during limit restriction

While the church is operating with number limit restrictions. As such, your weekly donations are still very much needed to cover our regular expenses during this time. Since we cannot meet in person, please take advantage of the diocesan on-line donation system to make your contributions (accessible via our web site under the Donations tab - Donate Now button) or drop off your collection envelopes through the mail slot at the office. You can also mail your donations/collection envelopes to us at St. Aloysius Parish, 300 rue de l'Abbe-Murray, Gatineau, Qc J8P 4Z4. We appreciate your continued support during this time.

The monthly financial reports (previous 2 months) are posted on the bulletin boards at the front and side entrances of the church for your perusal.

2020 Income Tax Receipts

All tax receipts have been mailed on February 22.

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:

Sun. Feb. 28	11:00 a.m.	For Muriel and Laura Grenier by Barbara Morey For David Whitworth by Lorraine
Wed. March 3	9:15 a.m.	For Victor Baptista by The Family
Sun. March 7	11:00 a.m.	For Laura and Muriel Grenier by Lorraine Whitworth

(Maximum of 25 pre-registered attendees. On-line virtual mass via FaceBook – see News & Events for details)

Lent: Suffering, Sacrifice and Glory

Today's readings speak of transformation and invite us all to cooperate with the grace of God, with the assistance of the Holy Spirit to transform our lives especially during this Lenten season.

The **first reading** presents the story of encounter between God and Abraham. Abraham's life was transformed because of his trusting faith in God and his obedience to God's order to sacrifice the only son of his old age. He became the supreme model of Faith in God's promises and obedience to His Holy Will. God had promised that Abraham would become father of many nations. How could this be possible if Isaac were to be sacrificed? Abraham trusted that God was both faithful enough and powerful enough to keep His promise. The reward was the renewal of promise: he would be the father of great race; his progeny throughout the world would receive blessing of God. Not only would Abraham's descendants be blessed, but all the nations of the earth would be blessed in him. In the Divine sparing of Isaac, Israel was to learn that theirs was a God who was not appeased by human sacrifice but by the sacrifice of a contrite spirit and a humbled heart. There is a clear parallel in this story: Abraham and Isaac are a prototype of God the Father and His Son, Jesus. The difference is that while Isaac was spared at the last moment, Jesus had to die. Just as to sacrifice his only son did not make sense to Abraham, it made even less sense to the disciples of Jesus that God could allow their Lord and Master Jesus to be executed. This only became clearer after the Pentecost for the Apostles. Eternal salvation was brought about by the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus.

There is also this parallel in the **second reading**. There is both the image of a Father's willingness to give up his son and the son's readiness to accept the father's will wholeheartedly. In this letter to the Romans, Paul assures us that it was by the perfect obedience to the will of His Father, expressed in His suffering and death, that Jesus was glorified and made our Heavenly intercessor. He affirms that He who gave His Son for us will give us all the things with His Son. We therefore should have confidence in God because it is Christ Jesus at the right hand of the Father who intercedes for us, and nothing can separate us from the love of Christ for us. St Paul says *'if God is for us, who is against us.'* God's love has no limit as He offered His Son to die for us. The incarnation and the crucifixion of His Son for us is our hope that God will give us His assistance we need to get to Heaven. This reading shows how the love of the Father is final and gratuitous and cannot be destroyed by the sins or infidelities of people. The **Gospel** is the story of transfiguration. The event was the opportunity for Jesus to consult His Heavenly Father and ascertain His plan for His Son's suffering, death and resurrection. Secondly, God was to make Jesus' chosen disciples aware of Jesus' divine glory so that they might discard their worldly ambitions and dreams of a conquering political Messiah and be strengthened in their time of trial.

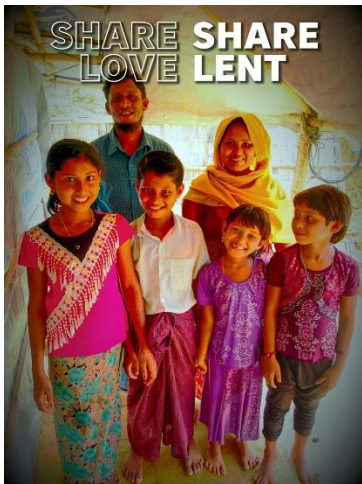
On Mount Hermon, while praying, Jesus was transformed into a shining figure, figure of Heavenly glory. God the Father, Moses and Elijah approved the plan regarding Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection. God's words from the cloud *"This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!"* which find parallel in Mk 1:11 (Baptism), and 15:39 (Calvary) summarise the meaning of Transfiguration, that on this mountain, God revealed Jesus as His Son – His Beloved – the One in whom He is always well pleased and the One to whom we must listen.

At Mass, the bread and wine we offer on the altar are transformed into the crucified and risen, living Body and Blood of Jesus. Like the Apostles at the transfiguration, each Holy Mass should be our source of heavenly strength against temptations and renewal especially during this Lent. The Holy Communion should be the source of our continuous 'transfiguration,' transforming minds

and hearts so that we may do more good by humble and selfless service to others. Our sacraments have transforming effects on us. They make us sons and daughters of God. In moments of doubts and during our dark moments of despair and hopelessness, the thought of our transformation in Heaven will help us to reach out to God and listen to His consoling words, *'This is my beloved son or daughter.'* Through our Lenten sacrifices and acceptance of our daily crosses, we may grow closer to Jesus in His suffering, share in the carrying of His cross and finally share the glory of His final 'transformation,' His resurrection.

We need mountain-top experience in our lives. We share in that experience in our lives when we spend extra time in prayer during this Lent. Our fasting is important too and keeps us to store up spiritual energy which helps us have thoughts that are higher and nobler than our usual mundane thinking. It puts us closely in touch with God and makes us more willing to help the hungry. During this season, we need transformation in our lives so that we may seek reconciliation instead of revenge, love our enemies, pray for those who hate us, give to the needy without expecting a reward, refuse to judge others and make friends with those we don't naturally like, hold back on harsh words, let love rule, forgive those who hurt us or hate us. Happy Sunday!

Share Love, Share Lent: Solidarity with communities in crises.



Did you know that Development and Peace provides humanitarian aid to communities coping with climate change, conflict and natural disasters in over a dozen countries?

This week, the *Share Love, Share Lent* campaign looks at how your solidarity is meaningful for Rohingya refugees and their host communities in Bangladesh.

Please pray for communities affected by crises and help us to keep supporting them by contributing to the collection on the Fifth Sunday of Lent.

For inspiration, information and to donate, visit devp.org/lent.

Follow our solidarity calendar at devp.org/lent.

Did you know that there are excellent videos from our bishop on the Mass. Take the time to view them and learn.

Msgr Paul André Durocher on Youtube : **The Mass, Unconfined (26) - The Eucharistic Prayer (1) - Introduction**

Copy and past this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VFAUyaSi4HM>

FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

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

ONLINE EVENTS

St. Al's Virtual Paint Nite: Spring is in the Air!



Looking for a fun activity to keep yourself busy until spring has sprung? Join us on Saturday, March 20th, 7-9:00PM for a free hosted Virtual Paint Nite, an instructor lead class you can follow in the comfort of your own home! You can either use the supplies you have at home, or order painting supplies from us for home delivery!

How it works: You will be provided with a Zoom link for the date and time of the event, login and follow along while our instructor guides you step-by-step through the featured painting. If you're feeling creative, change the colours to suit your décor or go completely rogue. This is your creative license!

WHAT YOU'LL NEED!

- 11x14 canvas (any size will work)
- Acrylic Paint -Primary Colours (White, Black, Blue, Red, Yellow)
- 3 Brushes (we suggest a small, medium and large brush)
- A tabletop easel (not necessary)
- Paper towel and a cup of water to clean your brushes

Note: Paint, canvas and brushes can be ordered beforehand for a fee of \$30 (cost includes supplies, delivery and a small donation to St. Aloysius parish)

Please register early to guarantee your spot!

For more details and to register please visit <https://www.staloyusius-stcolumban.com/events/st-als-virtual-paint-nite-spring-is-in-the-air>

We had fun at the January 30th Trivia Night –

Social Distancing St Aloysius version of Family Feud,



Michelle Cook Warden has kindly agreed to host another one on **Saturday, February 27, 2021** at 7:00 pm.

The St. Al's Family Feud event will consist of families going head to head (families will be made up of registered participants). Survey says, don't delay and register for this fun event now! For more details and to register please visit

<https://www.staloyusius-stcolumban.com/events/familyfeud>

Registration is free however, donations to the church are greatly appreciated.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: ONLINE EXERCISES



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 11th to April 15th**. Exercises are geared to every fitness level and equipment is not required. Register on our website at [https://www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/news-](https://www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/news-events)

[events](https://www.staloysius-stcolumban.com/news-events) 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 beginning in January.

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>

BIRTHDAYS FOR MARCH

John Stanyar

- 6th

Katy Brownrigg

- 15th

Diane Ford

-10th

Anthony Lalonde

- 19th

Mary Connelly

-10th

Janice Nadeau

- 14th

Anne Bokovay`

-15th

