

Weekly Bulletin
St. Aloysius and St. Columban
MY CHURCH, MY COMMUNITY, MY FRIENDS

-----**MY CHURCH**-----

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 28, 2024

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| Reading I | Deuteronomy 18.15-20 |
| Responsorial Psalm: | O that today you would listen to the voice of the Lord. Do not harden your hearts! |
| Reading II | 1 Corinthians 7.32-35 |
| Gospel | Mark 1.21-28 |

MASS Intentions:

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| Fri. Jan 26 | 9:00 a.m. | For all parishioners |
| Sun. Jan. 28 | 11:00 a.m. | For Isbel Villamor by Monina Leblanc For Sharon Shaw by the Friendship Club |
| Mon. Jan. 29 | 11:00 a.m. | Funeral Mass of Maynard Robinson |
| Fri. Feb. 2 | 9:00 a.m. | For all parishioners |
| Sun. Feb. 4 | 11:00 a.m. | For Gisele Kehoe by The Friendship Club Fo Elizabeth Kopil, a founding member of St. Al's by her granddaughter Susan Womington For Ann (Kopil) Melvin by her goddaughter Susan Womington |

ST. ALOYSIUS COLLECTION - Jan. 21: \$1,050.00

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION is available fifteen minutes before all Sunday masses at St. Aloysius. This sacrament is an important part of our continual preparation for the eternal kingdom.

FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH Please pray for the sick of our Parish: John Nadeau, Marvella Harvey, Adeline Gendron, and Diane Morey.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT (AND FOR BODIES) IN PREPARATION FOR LENT - You are invited to a LUNCH & LEARN event (Pot Luck) on **Sunday February 4th, 2024** in the parish hall after Mass. Come eat a meal and learn from professional missionaries Evalina and Eric Fillion from Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO). This is how they present their conference:

“A Novena of Lents: Preparing with the Church for the 2000th Anniversary of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ

The year 2033 will mark 2000 years since an event that has shaped the course of human history: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. What will this mean for the Church, for you, and for me? Eric and Evalina will share about what CCO is doing to prepare and how you can be a part of this extraordinary moment in history.”

Speaker Bios



Evalina and Eric Fillion were married a year and a half ago and are both professional Catholic missionaries with Catholic Christian Outreach, a Canadian university ministry. Eric is a native of Ottawa where he studied Engineering, Philosophy, and Theology at university. He has lived and worked as a missionary coast to coast: Vancouver, Saskatoon, Kingston, St John's, and Ottawa. He currently serves as a manager in CCO's HR department. Evalina was born and raised in Calgary before studying Biology and Concurrent Education at Queen's University in Kingston. After several years as a missionary on campus, Evalina has taken on a role in CCO's Formation department

before going on maternity leave to care for their first child, Eden. Eric and Evalina fell in love through their common passion for canoeing and adventure... but they believe that the greatest adventure is following Jesus.

PANCAKE SUPPER



“Is this not the fast that I choose:...to share your bread with the hungry...” (Is 58.7)

Come and enjoy a good meal in great company!

When: Tuesday, February 13th at 5:30 p.m

Cost: FREE WILL offering appreciated.

Get your tickets from Stephanie, Ann-Marie or Carol to reserve a seat. (You may also call the office at 819-663-5244 for a ticket)

TAX RECEIPT FOR DONATIONS

St. Aloysius tax receipts for your donations for the year 2023 are ready and I will be handing them out at Mass on Sunday. Jo Anne Lambert, Finance Warden

2023 FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR ST. ALOYSIUS – Finance Warden

Now that 2023 is behind us, I wanted to provide an update on how we did financially. Although we have seen a significant increase in our congregation over the past year with many new wonderful parishioners, the economic realities of inflation and unexpected expenses (eg fire doors) have had an impact on our budget. With a large deficit of close to \$12,000 projected in late November and reported at the annual AGM, the parish once again this year generously provided support over the month of December to cover the monthly expenses and most of the projected deficit. As a result, at year-end (December 31st), the parish was left with a deficit of only \$1059 which will be easily covered by funds in our bank account. Although multiple deficits from year to year are not a good thing and must be addressed, the 2023 deficit is the first deficit the parish has incurred in many years. Given the current economic times, it is important for the parish to properly manage its budget and we will need to remain vigilant to budget pressures over the coming years. Copies of the 2023 year-end report have been posted on the bulletin board at the entrances of the church for perusal. Please contact me should you have any questions.

As my term as Finance Warden is now done, I wanted to thank all parishioners for their personal, spiritual and financial support over these past six years. Jo Anne Lambert has assumed the role of the Finance Warden as of January 1st and comes with a pedigree of financial wardenship as well as many years of involvement within the parish. She will be an excellent Finance Warden. I will assist her in her transition to the role and will remain involved at the committee level. Thank you.

Jim Brownrigg
Former Finance Warden

MAINTENANCE WARDEN – Unfortunately at our AGM Dec. 3rd, no one was nominated nor came forward to fill the Maintenance warden position. It is essential, by Quebec law, that we have six wardens. Please, seriously consider the possibility of volunteering for this by contacting the parish office or any one of the wardens.



HELP! – Following upon the insurance company's inspection, we need to upgrade two old fuse panels to newer breaker panels located in the workshop of the rectory. If you are a **qualified electrician** or if you know of one who could help us at a friendly price, please call Mike McCann at 819-893-2621.

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

Children ages 7 and up are invited to gather in the sacristy and listen to the Word. (Readings and Gospel). This activity is during mass and the children return to their parents just after the prayers of the faithful. Two adults will take turns in leading this activity.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS



If you would like to read, with a group of fellow parishioners, the Scripture readings of the following Sunday in order to better absorb them and let them speak to you during the week, send your e-mail address to the parish office and we will get in touch with you.

-----MY COMMUNITY-----

Looking Back: From Yele, Gbonkolenken Tonkolili District Sierra Leone to Lethbridge, Alberta Canada (Achieving an Educational Dream)

by Desmond Samuel Kamara (Dez) (BA '10)

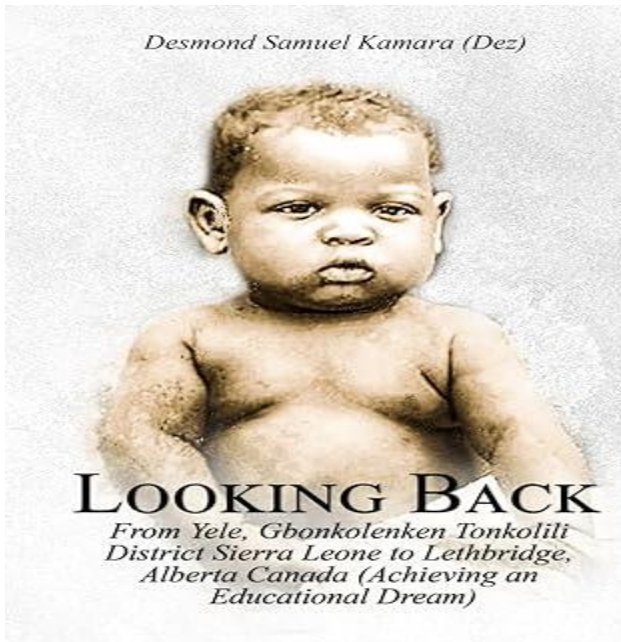
Dez is now a member of St. Aloysius parish, Gatineau, QC. At the parish's pancake supper, Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 p.m., Dez will have a table with copies of his book to purchase or a sheet to sign if you wish to order the book. In the near future, a special first Sunday of the month 'Meet & Greet' after the 11:00 a.m. Mass will be held in the hall for an opportunity to discuss the contents of the book with Dez.

While Dez believes his book provides something for every reader, he says immigrants, refugees, international students and those institutions which support them, will find special interest.

Isn't this a marvellous opportunity to exercise the diocesan priorities of welcoming newcomers and listening to each other!

Looking Back Paperback – Oct. 26 2023

by [Desmond Samuel Kamara](#) (Author)



This book describes the education of Dez Kamara in faith, hope, and hard work. Starting from his early schooling and the educational values of his stern but loving father, Dez's educational journey takes him from boarding school to the disruptions of the civil war in Sierra Leone to his move to pursue his education in Canada. As a young man, he first experienced the violence of war before working to help even younger people affected by it. His work with child soldiers leads not only to a meeting with Romeo Dallaire but the making of a film about their experiences. It is his curiosity about the world and his resilience that carry him through. While the thread of education weaves through this heartfelt memoir, generosity and courage are its biggest gifts. While Dez benefits from the generosity of others throughout his experiences, he returns that generosity in full measure in this book.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy to the Berrea family on the passing away of Glenn. His funeral will be held at St. Al's on Feb. 8th. May he rest in peace.

STAMPS – Let's get back into the habit of cutting out the stamps from our mail and putting them in the box at church. A member of Developments and Peace has already patiently counted 12,934 stamps that we had collected over the past few years in Gatineau. It is therefore a great invitation to resume our stamp collection. Did you know that since its beginnings in 1992, this initiative has raised more than \$600,000 for Development and Peace. Please place your stamps in the box labelled 'STAMPS' at the entrance of the church. Thank you for sharing this information with your friends and family.

HALL AVAILABILITY

The fitness group who, for the past few years, had been holding dance classes in our hall on Tuesday and Thursday nights, has not renewed its contract. Consequently, the hall is now available on those nights. If you, or someone you know, would like to reserve the hall for a long term contract (fitness group, AA, Bridge club, whatever...) please contact our hall warden, Brian Peters, at 613-600-1987.

BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

Paulette Pearce – 26th

Mary Daly – 31st

BIRTHDAYS FOR FEBRUARY

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Lorraine Whitworth | - 1 st |
| Robbie Miller | - 1 st |
| Amanda Foley | - 4 th |
| Maximilian McMackin | - 4 th |
| Julie McCann | - 10 th |
| Charlie Long | - 11 th |
| Joseph McMackin | - 11 th |
| Father Greg Murray | - 19 th |
| Louise D'Entremont | - 21 st |
| Hannah Burns | - 22 nd |

