



**Dec 28, 2020 – Jan 3, 2021**

**THERE WILL BE NO PUBLIC MASSES DURING THE COVID-19 LOCKDOWNS.** *Please note, the following Mass Intentions will be celebrated by our Priests on the following dates:*

- Monday** (Feast) *The Holy Innocents, Martyrs*  
+ Brenda Bowering – Mary Black
- Tuesday** *Fifth Day Within the Octave of the Nativity*  
+ Eleanor Freeman – Ann Stuart  
+ Jamie Fitzgerald – Mom, Dad, Tina
- Wednesday** *Sixth Day Within the Octave of the Nativity*  
+ Joyce Kelly – Kristina Kelly
- Thursday** *Seventh Day Within the Octave of the Nativity*  
+ Doris Donnelly – Joyce and Family
- Friday** *The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God – The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord*  
+ All Souls in Purgatory  
+ Stan Bolger – Karl and Ruth Ann Gmach and Family
- Saturday** (Memorial) *St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen Bishops*  
+ Margaret McCracken – Ann Stuart  
+ Ramon Aguto – Lerma and Family

**The Epiphany of the Lord**

**Sunday** - Int. of the Parishioners of St. Aloysius Parish and those written in our Parish Book of Life

**Parish News**



Waterloo Region is now in the GREY Zone which means that no public Masses are permitted. Beginning December 26<sup>th</sup>, St. Aloysius Parish will be closed to Public Masses until the Province Wide Lockdown is ended. Our Parish Office will also be closed during this time.

If you have a Pastoral Emergency during our closure, please call our Office at 519-893-1220 and leave a message as we will be checking our voicemail messages.

**HOW TO SUPPORT US DURING THE LOCKDOWN;**

If you are looking to support us during our Church closure, there are a number of ways to help!



**Jan 4 - 10 2021**

- Monday** (ferial)  
+ Manuel and Jorgina Pacheco – A. Pacheco  
+ Lucy De Amorim - Parents
- Tuesday** (ferial)  
- Int. of Veronica and Family – Mom  
+ Ramon Aguto – Lerma and Family
- Wednesday** (ferial)  
- Int. of Audrey Roessler – Carlos and Rosa  
+ Ludwik Twarowski – Family
- Thursday** Memorial (St. Andre Bessette Religious)  
- Int. of Teresa Gudzak – Legion of Mary  
- Int. of Lee Ann Paiva - Maria
- Friday** (ferial)  
+ Stan Bolger – Bob Borys  
+ Frank Stuart – Ann Stuart
- Saturday** (ferial)  
- Int. of Father Melvin - Maria  
+ Mr. A. Wilkinson – Stained Glass Guild

**Baptism of the Lord**

**Sunday** - Int. of the Parishioners of St. Aloysius Parish and those written in our Parish Book of Life

You can support St. Aloysius Parish through our CanadaHelps donation portal. You can choose to support the Church through a one-time or monthly gift with your credit card or Pay-Pal account. To make a donation through CanadaHelps visit this link; <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/55515> or visit our website at [staloyusius.on.ca](http://staloyusius.on.ca) and click on the 'Donate' button on our homepage



If you prefer, you can mail in your Sunday collection to our Parish Office.

Interested in Pre-Authorized giving from your bank account? Click here to find out more: <https://www.staloyusius.on.ca/pre-authorized-giving>

**We thank everyone who is financially able to support us during these difficult times.**



**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph** Sun,  
December 27, 2020 - **Background on the Gospel Reading**

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family. This celebration is assigned to the Sunday within the octave of Christmas. The Gospel for today is taken from the Gospel according to Luke and is part of Luke's Infancy Narrative.

Today's Gospel describes the presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple and shows Joseph and Mary as devout Jews, following the prescriptions of the Law of Moses. The Gospel alludes to several aspects of the Law of Moses: circumcision, the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord, and the purification of a woman after childbirth.

According to the Law of Moses as presented in the Book of Leviticus, a woman was considered ritually unclean during her menstrual period and for a prescribed period of time following the birth of a child. After the birth of a son, a woman was considered ritually unclean for 40 days. After the birth of a daughter, a woman was considered unclean for 80 days. In order to be restored to ritual purity, a Jewish woman performed the appropriate rites of purification and made the prescribed ritual offering.

Today's Gospel notes that Jesus was circumcised on the eighth day after his birth, in accordance with the Mosaic Law. At that time, he was called Jesus, the name he was given by the angel Gabriel. On the 40th day after Jesus' birth, Mary performed the appropriate purification rites and made her offering at the Temple. Although the Law of Moses required an offering of a lamb, those who could not afford a lamb could substitute two turtledoves or two pigeons. In this scene, Luke identifies Joseph and Mary as being poor, and indeed throughout Luke's Gospel, Jesus will show special concern for the poor.

Another Jewish rite referenced in this Gospel is the dedication of the firstborn son to the Lord. In remembrance of the feast of Passover, when the firstborn children of the Israelites in Egypt were saved from death, the Law of Moses prescribed that all firstborn males of Israel should be consecrated to the Lord. In this tradition, Mary and Joseph present the infant Jesus in the Temple in Jerusalem.

In Jerusalem, Luke reports that Mary and Joseph encounter two devout Jews, Simeon and Anna, who recognize the infant Jesus as the fulfillment of Israel's hope for redemption. In Simeon's words we find a prediction of Mary's witnessing of Jesus' death on the cross. The Canticle of Simeon, also called by its Latin name, *Nunc Dimitis*, is prayed at night prayer, or compline, during the Liturgy of the Hours.



**Epiphany of the Lord** Sunday, January 3, 2021 -  
**Background on the Gospel Reading**

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana. **Loyola Press E-Bulletin**

**Thank you for your continued support of St. Aloysius Parish. We rely heavily on the help of our wonderful volunteers. Thank you to everyone who gives their time and talents to our many Ministries at St. Aloysius Parish! 2020 has been a very challenging year and we Thank all who have supported our Church during these trying times. Those who are financially able to support us have been helping us greatly. We wish all of you a Merry Christmas! May God keep you healthy and safe through this pandemic. We hope to see you soon!**