

SAINT ALOYSIUS GONZAGA

(Religious)
21 June



About Saint Aloysius Gonzaga (1568-1591)

Saint Aloysius was the eldest son of a Mantuan nobleman, and his father had decided that he would be a soldier. Aloysius, however, had other plans. He was determined that he would be a missionary, and even desired to die for his faith. He renounced his birthright in favour of his younger brother and at the age of 16 became a Jesuit novice in Rome. As a novice, he undertook to live the same life of severe austerity and penance that he had followed even when serving in the courts of dukes and princes. In 1591 an epidemic of plague broke out in Rome, and the Jesuits opened a hospital to care for the sick. Aloysius, while still a novice, worked hard in the hospital until he himself caught the plague. Unfortunately, he did not recover; but he did get his wish to die for the faith as he died on 20 June at midnight with the name of Jesus on his lips.

Bibliography:

Universalis App: 21 June

What can we learn from Saint Aloysius Gonzaga?

Saint Aloysius realized that everything we have here on earth is temporary. It is a means to an end, not the other way around. All the material possessions we have are good in their own time and place. What we must realize however, is that all the blessings we receive come from the Lord Himself and that we should always put the Lord and neighbour ahead of ourselves. Whatever we have we should be willing to share with others.

Unfortunately, Aloysius didn't make it to ordination, but service was certainly at the heart of everything he did. Let us pray for the courage to share what we have with others and be willing like Aloysius to tend to the needs of others. He certainly exemplified the meaning of the text of the Gospel reading for his feast day – to love God and neighbour totally as one would do for oneself.

Prayer Resources

COLLECT

O God, giver of heavenly gifts,
who in Saint Aloysius Gonzaga
joined penitence to a wonderful innocence of life,
grant, through his merits and intercession,
that, though we have failed to follow him in innocence,
we may imitate him in penitence.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:34-40

Love the Lord your God, and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees
they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question,
‘Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?’
Jesus said,
‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,
and with all your mind.
This is the greatest and the first commandment.
The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself.
On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.’

Communion Antiphon

Ps 77:24-25

God gave them bread from heaven;
man ate the bread of Angels.

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A Hymn for the Memorial of Saint Aloysius Gonzaga

1. Saint Aloysius, of noble birth,
lived a life of penance and prayer;
serving the royal court his duty,
for others always showing care.

2. Saint Aloysius, you have shown us
the things of this world to renounce
in favour of Christ and His Gospel,
and to the world Good News announce.

3. The sick you undertook to care for,
those who by plague had been struck down.
You did succumb to illness yourself,
your kindness brought you great renown.

4. The Lord we must love and our neighbour
as ourselves and with all our heart;
we share all our gifts, time and treasure,
and in God's work each day take part.

Text: Chris deSilva and Alessio Loiacono
Tune: SAINT CLEMENT 98.98

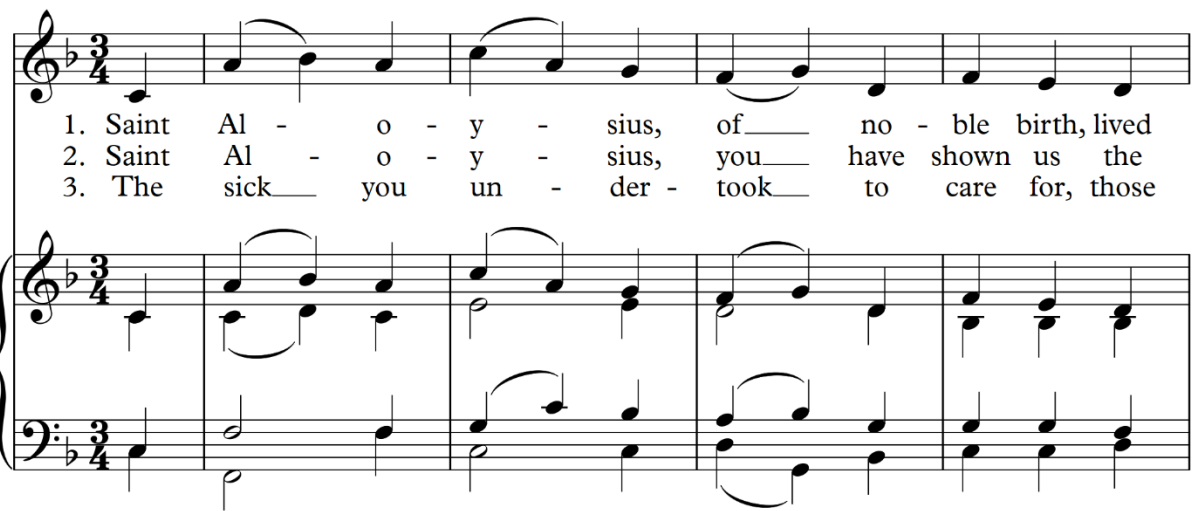
Saint Aloysius Gonzaga

(21 June)

Chris deSilva and Alessio Loiacono

ST CLEMENT 98.98

Voice




1. Saint Al - o - y - sius, of no - ble birth, lived
2. Saint Al - o - y - sius, you have shown us the
3. The sick you un - der - took to care for, those

Organ

5

Voice

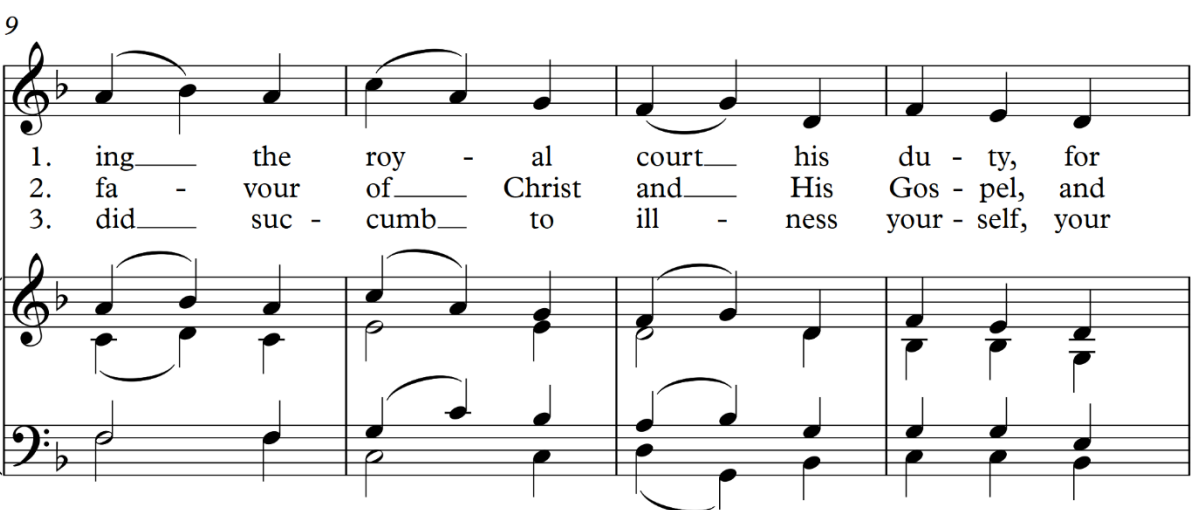


1. a life of pen - ance and prayer; serv -
2. things of this world to re - nounce in
3. who by plague had been struck down. You

Org.

9

Voice



1. ing the roy - al court his du - ty, for
2. fa - vour of Christ and His Gos - pel, and
3. did suc - cumb to ill - ness your - self, your

Org.

13

Voice

1. oth - ers al - ways show - ing care.
2. to the world Good News an - nounce.
3. kind - ness brought you great re - nown.

Org.

1.2. 3.

1.2. 3.

Voice

4. The Lord we must love and our neigh-bour as

Org.

4. The Lord we must love and our neigh-bour as

5

Voice

4. our - selves and with all our heart; we

Org.

4. our - selves and with all our heart; we

9

Voice

4. share all our gifts, time and treas - ure, and

Org.

This musical system contains measures 9 through 12. The voice part is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "4. share all our gifts, time and treas - ure, and". The organ part consists of two staves, treble and bass, also in G major. It provides harmonic support for the voice with chords and moving lines. The organ part ends with a double bar line at the end of measure 12.

13

Voice

4. in God's work each day take part.

Org.

This musical system contains measures 13 through 16. The voice part continues on the same staff and key signature. The lyrics are: "4. in God's work each day take part." The organ part continues on two staves, providing accompaniment. The system concludes with a double bar line at the end of measure 16.