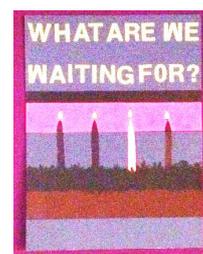


ADVENT: A TIME OF JOYFUL ANTICIPATION

Advent is a time that reflects the joy of anticipation, and the expectation, of Jesus' first coming when he appeared on earth. Advent is a time of preparation, and as such becomes a time of desire, longing and expectancy.



The Church prepares for the coming of Jesus in many ways:

- Through the Old Testament – the banner at the front of the Church, on the left, shows Lady Wisdom in the center surrounded by four Old Testament prophets from whom the first Scripture readings at Mass are taken in the season of Advent.
- Through John the Baptist who shows us that Advent is a time of conversion;
- Through Mary – the banner on the right holds an image of Mary. The Holy Spirit hovers over her and thus she conceives the Saviour of the world. If there is one who knows what it is to wait and to live Advent, it is obviously Mary.

Until the last Sunday of Advent, the emphasis is on the coming of Jesus at the end of time. The theme then switches to the coming of Jesus as a baby in Bethlehem – *now is the time to set out the nativity scenes.*

Advent is about more than our preparation for the Church's celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. Advent is also about preparing ourselves for Christ's return in glory at the end of time. Our faithfulness to God, through the good times as well as the difficult times, shows us to be ready for the coming of the Son of Man.

ALMA MILLER IS RETIRING

After almost nine years, a well-deserved retirement awaits Alma at the end of December. The Wardens from both Parishes, on behalf of their respective faith communities, would like to thank Alma for her years of devotion and loyal service. More updates to follow on the secretarial position.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE & MASS SCHEDULE – CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S

The Penitential Service will be held on Thursday, December 18th at 7:00 pm at OLV.

The following is the Christmas and New Year's Mass Schedule for Our Lady of Victory and St. Malachy Parishes:

Wednesday	December 24 th	7:00 pm	Mass at Our Lady of Victory
Wednesday	December 24 th	9:00 pm	Mass at St. Malachy
Thursday	December 25 th	9:00 am	Mass at Our Lady of Victory
Thursday	January 1 st	9:00 am	Mass at Our Lady of Victory

ST. MALACHY NEWS

Election of Wardens

Each year two church wardens are to be elected for a term of three years and can remain in office for two consecutive terms. This year, Peter Cameron will be completing one term and has agreed to let his name stand for nomination. Shirley Ellement will be completing her second term. If you or someone you know, with his/her approval, would like to become a warden and help the Parish in that capacity, please submit the name to a member of the Fabrique or call the office at 819 986-3763 by December 6th. If an election is necessary, it will be held on December 13th after our Eucharistic celebration. Thank you.



As announced in last week's bulletin we begin our annual **Development & Peace** educational campaign this week. Our theme this fall is "**Sow Much Love**". This continues our campaign against global hunger which was launched by Pope Francis on December 10, 2013. We enclose an insert addressed to **Development & Peace** supporters from our Archbishop Paul-André Durocher. He points out that our participation and solidarity are key if we are to end global hunger. Other inserts to follow.

Dear Development and Peace Supporters

Last December, Pope Francis launched a call to the Church throughout the world, including each one of us, to be part of a global campaign by Caritas Internationalis. One Human Family, Food for All is a battle cry against the suffering and scandal of global hunger. Many Catholics in our country whole-heartedly responded to the Holy Father's appeal by joining this past Lent's campaign by Development and Peace, the Canadian member of the Caritas Internationalis confederation. The issue of hunger and food production was at the heart of the 2014 Lent campaign. Now Development and Peace is making this the focus of its 2014 education campaign.

More than one billion people still suffer from hunger on our planet. In our world of plenty, starving is a scandal. It erodes one of the most fundamental human rights: the right to food. When we reflect on hunger at home and abroad, we realize that it is only by working as one human family, united in a spirit of compassion, that we will finally bring an end to this grave injustice. There is enough food in the world, yet people still suffer from hunger. As we know from the miracle of the feeding of the multitude with five loaves of bread and two fish, it is our Christian duty to ensure food is shared among all of God's children.

Our sisters and brothers in the Global South who work on small family farms and in local fishing communities produce a major portion of the world's food. Yet they are the first to suffer from hunger and poverty. The Pontifical Council for the Sciences has observed that "The massive fossil fuel use at the heart of the global energy system deeply disrupts the Earth's climate and acidifies the world's oceans." In addition to the increasing number of natural disasters and droughts which scientists link to climate change, more and more farmers in developing regions are forced to purchase their seeds from multinational corporations. Small family farmers need to have

access to local, climate-resilient seeds, in order to grow food to feed their families, their communities, and the world. Local fishing communities face similar challenges, as the world's fish stocks are disrupted and depleted by large commercial interests, as well as from water pollution.

Seeds are part of God's magnificent creation. Farmers are the natural stewards of these seeds, which provide food for all of us. This fall, Development and Peace is inviting us to support small family farmers around the world to ensure seeds continue to be nurtured and preserved by farmers, and that living seeds do not become the exclusive property of multinational corporations. Faith in Jesus Christ and his compassion for the poor and marginalized are at the heart of the work of Development and Peace. For nearly 50 years, it has been mandated by the Bishops of Canada to take action against injustice and to ensure all people have access to the goods of creation, a basic principle of Catholic Social Teaching.

When he launched the Caritas campaign, Pope Francis invited each of us to make space in our hearts "for this emergency of respecting the God-given rights of everyone to have access to adequate food." Let us in charity and justice collaborate with our sisters and brothers in the Global South, whom the Holy Father reminds us "face numerous obstacles to satisfy such a basic need."

Your participation and solidarity are key. If we are a united family, we can end global hunger through our support for small family farmers and for their access to seeds.

+Paul-André Durocher Archbishop of Gatineau
President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

OUR LADY OF VICTORY NEWS

Christmas Tea

Our annual Christmas Tea will be held on Saturday, December 6th in the Parish hall from 1:30 to 3:30 pm. Admission will be \$5.00 per person. Donations to the Christmas craft table, bake sale and tea would be appreciated. The Church will be opened on Saturday morning at 8:30 am if you want to drop off your donation. Come and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship with family and friends. Everyone is welcome!

Christmas Concert with La Chanterelle

On Wednesday, December 17th, La Chanterelle will be holding its annual Christmas Concert. The profits from this event are shared equally with OLV, so it is important that we support this activity. Ticket prices are \$12 each or 2 for \$20.

Desserts and coffee will be served after the concert. Anyone wishing to donate a dessert should contact Susan Lemieux at 819-281-5487.

Tickets can be obtained from the secretary or the wardens. Tickets will be sold before Mass on one day only - December 7th.

COMMUNITY NEWS

The Lions Club annual telethon will be held and broadcast on our local cable station on Sunday, December 7th from 1:00 to 9:00 pm. As we have done for many years, our two parishes will participate in the Lions Club Telethon. Contributions to the Telethon can be made by placing your donation – cash or cheque made out to the Lions Club – in a plain envelope marked Lions Club in front, and add it to the regular collection next weekend. If you wish a tax receipt from the Lions Club, please ensure that your name and address are included with your donation so that a receipt can be returned to you.

Christmas is a time of giving, of thanking God for all we have. It is also an opportune time to reach out and help those less fortunate than ourselves. **Something new this year**, Fr. Albanus will join the Transformation Committee members to make a “live” presentation during the Telethon of the donations received from both parishes.

La Grande Guignolée des Medias - Every year, the various media organizations join forces to have a fund-raising drive, La Grand Guignolée des Medias, with a view to helping local community organizations. This drive is in the form of road-blocks in the very early hours of one morning and local media celebrities don Santa hats and stand on street corners asking for motorists' donations.

One hundred media and hundreds of volunteers will join, anywhere in the province of Quebec, to collect non-perishable food and cash donations in order to help the poor. For the last few years, the proceeds of this road-block have been donated to the food banks. Our local food bank, La mie de l'entraide, has organized there road-blocks for this year's Grande Guignolée to be held on Thursday, December 4th from 6:00 to 9:00 am. One is at the corner of MacLaren and Belanger in the Buckingham sector, one at the corner of Georges and Filion in the Masson sector, and one at the corner of Laurentides and Neuville in the Angers sector. All monetary and non-perishable donations will be accepted at these three road-blocks. If you are on the road and see these early-morning Santas begging for donations, please be assured that your generous donation will be used locally at our food bank.

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
November 22-23, 2014 - Sunday Offering	\$579.00	\$190.00
November 22-23, 2014 - Fuel	\$335.00	\$170.00