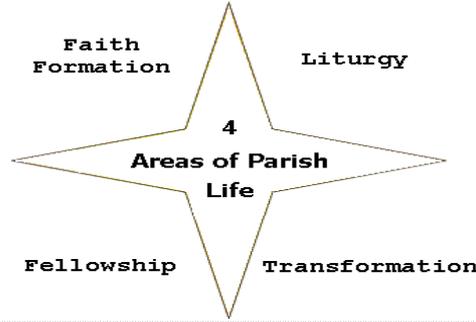




Our Lady of Victory
490 Charles Street
Gatineau, Québec
J8L 2K5



St. Malachy
3889 Route 315
Mayo, Québec
J8L 3Z8

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

DECEMBER 31, 2016 – JANUARY 1, 2017

Sunday 9:00 AM

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday 7:00 PM

Pastor Father Albanus Ogowuihe
Rectory 490 Charles Street, Gatineau, Québec, J8L 2K5
Secretary Monique Simpson
Email olv@videotron.ca
Office Hours **Monday** - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Wednesday - 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Thursday - 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Telephone (819) 986-3763
Fax (819) 961-3159
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180, boul. Mont-Bleu
Gatineau (QC) J8Z 3J5
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MASSES

Thursday	Jan. 5 th	OLV	NO MASS
Saturday	Jan. 7 th	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	George, Jack and Kay Roos by Ginny
Sunday	Jan. 8 th	OLV @ 9:00 am	Beatrice Bonin by Deborah Dorey Tom Dorion by The Community

The Archbishop's Monthly Intentions: January 2017

"That all Christians faithful to the teachings of the Lord, commit themselves, through prayer and charity, join forces in meeting the challenges faced by today's humanity. "

Social Reflection: The current challenges humanity faces are large and diverse. We are confronted to promote justice, peace and respect for creation so that all may have good living conditions. "But the task seems unrealistic and even impossible". We will have to look for partners and join forces. In great catastrophes, we experience solidarity. The Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Quebec, through the Church and Society Council, produced a document to initiate a reflection process on the necessity and demands of solidarity.

Answering our Faith: As Christians we have an important role to play in making solidarity a beacon of hope for all mankind. We draw from the Gospel, the Word of Life that inspires and motivates our actions in order to be like Jesus in our relationships. Jesus did say, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." *John 10, verse 10*. The unity of Christians can only strengthen this solidarity to brave the challenges that mankind is facing while safeguarding its environment in order to support human life.

Questioning ourselves Sunday, January 1, 2017: Holy Mary, Mother of God: God accompanies us. In the manger, Mary represents an accompanying figure. Today's Gospel told us that "Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart." Like her, let us recognize God who accompanies us every day: may His Word enlighten us, His church, bring us together and His Spirit, energize us. Like Mary, let us ponder His Word in our hearts and live the glory of God in our lives.

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

Mary the Mother of God: Year 2017

Today, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. In the year 231 AD, the council of Ephesus affirmed that Mary was truly the Mother of God (*Theotokos*). In 451, the Council of Chalcedon confirmed the Divine Motherhood of Mary as a dogma, an official doctrine of the Holy Catholic Church. This doctrine is proclaimed in acknowledgement of the very Godhead of her Son, Jesus Christ. The Church based this conviction on the references in the New Testament (Lk 1:26-38; Lk 1:43; Jn 1:14; Gal 4:4-7) and the traditional belief of the early Church, stating that Mary was truly the Mother of God (*Theotokos*), because "according to the flesh" she gave birth to Jesus, Who was truly God as well as truly man from the first moment of conception of Mary. The Church does not ever equate Mary with God nor replace God with her. Rather, we honour her, primarily because God honoured her by choosing her to become the Mother of Jesus, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, when He took on our flesh and became man.

Today's Gospel describes the spread of the news of the birth of Jesus by the shepherds. It also tells us how Mary the Mother of Jesus treasured "all these things" in her heart. Like Mary, we can start this New Year with a sense of wonder and trust. Mary, "the handmaid of the Lord", trusted in God's providence and was sustained by the goodness of God. As a mother of Good Counsel, our Lady can be our guidance and counsellor in the area of faith. She is our Mother in faith. As the Gospel of John shows, Mary was present at the beginning and the end of Christ's public life (cf. Jn 19:25). Mary stood there faithful to Jesus till his last breath, believing in God's power to save. The Mother of Jesus would henceforth be Mother to all his disciples, sharing with us her strong and simple faith (Jn 19:25-27). The image of Mary being presented in the Gospel is that of the contemplative woman who ponders the marvels the Almighty has done for her and all the people. She ponders in response to what the shepherds said to her. The same gospel has been handed on to us, and we are invited to treasure it, to ponder on it and to respond to it as Mary did.

Today is New Year Day too. On this New Year, the first reading from the Book of Numbers, gives us the beautiful divine blessings. It is the text of the blessings used by the priests at the conclusion of the liturgical celebrations in Jerusalem temple. We need to make these blessings our own as we begin yet another year by the grace of God. The last part of the blessings which speaks of peace is very important as our world suffers today for want of peace. Peace is a God given gift. Our world lacks peace because God is not very present in most people and events of our world. The Church, therefore, on this World Day of Peace, invites us to pray specially for lasting peace in the world throughout the New Year. By this feast of Mary, the Mother of God, therefore, the Church invites us all to lay our hopes and plans for the New Year in the motherly care of the Mother of God. We are called to entrust to her all our personal concerns and those of our times. We are aware in our world of the conflicts and glaring injustices, the unequal wealth and opportunity, the wars in places like Syria, Iraq and elsewhere. In the New Year, many feel to make good resolutions. What better New Year's resolution than to adopt Mary's stance of awe, wonder and trust before the grace of God.

Happy New Year!

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
Dec. 24 - 25, 2016 - Sunday	\$1,520.00	\$210.00
Dec. 24 - 25, 2016 - Fuel	223.00	214.00
Dec. 24 - 25, 2016 - Christmas Collection	2,090.00	909.00
Dec. 27, 2016 - Support	20.00	
Dec. 27, 2016 - Candles	232.00	

OUR LADY of VICTORY & ST. MALACHY NEWS

Holidays: Father Albanus will be away from January 2nd to February 3rd, 2017. Our weekend masses will be celebrated by Father Jean de Dieu Ntibeshya.

Father Albanus we wish you a good vacation and quality time with your family. May you have a safe journey!

Thursday Mass: There will be no Thursday masses from December 22nd to February 2nd. Will begin again on February 9th, 2017

Fellowship: There will be **NO** fellowship after mass on January 1st. Will resume this activity again on Sunday, February 5th.

Clothing Requests: The charitable organization, **Just Equipping**, which rents space in the OLV Rectory, is still looking for clothing for men in African prisons. The following items are requested: jogging pants, hoodies, long sleeve shirts, socks and underwear. These can be dropped off at OLV during the secretary's office hours. Also they would appreciate any old suitcases in good condition. **They appreciate all that have been donated to date.**

75th Anniversary Celebration - OLV:

2017 marks the year Our Lady of Victory will be celebrating its 75th anniversary. The first mass was said on January 25th 1942, just three days after the Parish was officially decreed on January 22nd.

On January 22nd 2017, on the exact date of the decree establishing our parish, a commemorative mass will be celebrated by **Archbishop Paul-André Durocher** at

10:00 am. The mass will be followed by a brunch where present and former parishioners can share fellowship and renew acquaintances. It is our hope to attract as many past and present parishioners to this event as possible. So spread the word.

In order for us to plan for the brunch, for which there will be no charge, we need your cooperation; some forward planning is required. **Tickets are limited, so please be sure to register by calling the office at 819-986-3763 or Mike Legault at 819-281-1405.** Also, following mass on January 8th & 15th we will be accepting requests for tickets to attend the brunch. **Tickets will be mandatory to attend.** Don't be disappointed.

HISTORY OF OLV

Every month there will be an historical write up of the founding of our church. We thank Dorothy Ann Casey for providing us with this information.

Birth of O.L.V.

It all began when Father John Brady, a missionary from Ireland, arrived in the area. Because he liked the settlement so much, he decided in 1840 to ask the Bishop if he could build a church here. Upon receiving permission, the church was built and it became known as St. Gregoire de Nazianze. The entire French and English Catholic community participated in the growth of their parish. For several years the English-speaking parishioners were anxious to have their own church. After many requests to the Diocese, the decree was granted for Our Lady of Victory Parish, on January 22, 1942. Father E. F. Bambrick was named the first pastor. Three days later, on January 25, 1942, the first Mass was celebrated in the building known as the Cameron Store (which later became the Haspect Bowling Alley) located at the corner of Lefebvre Street and Avenue de Buckingham (formerly Market and Main Street).

As this occurred during World War II, the name of Our Lady of Victory was chosen because all Christians were hoping and praying for peace and a victorious end to the war (Throughout history countries that have asked Our Lady for protection during time of war have been victorious).