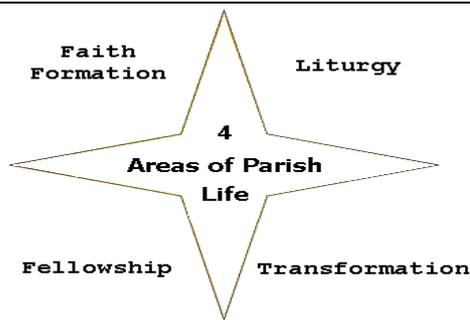




Our Lady of Victory
490 Charles Street
Gatineau, Québec
J8L 2K5



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

NATIVITY OF THE LORD

DECEMBER 24 - 25, 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
Office Admin. 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
Website www.stmalachyolv.com



180, boul. Mont-Bleu
Gatineau (QC) J8Z 3J5
www.diocesegatineau.org

MASSES

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Christmas Eve | Dec. 24 th | OLV @ 7:00 pm St. Malachy @ 9:00 pm | All Parishioners of OLV & St. Malachy All Parishioners of St. Malachy & OLV |
| Christmas Day | Dec. 25 th | OLV @ 9:00 am | All Parishioners of OLV & St. Malachy |
| Saturday | Dec. 30 th | St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm | Donald McDonough by Greg & Patricia Lavell |
| Sunday | Dec. 31 st | OLV @ 9:00 am | All Parishioners of OLV & St. Malachy |
| New Year's Day | Jan. 1 st | OLV @ 9:00 am | All Parishioners of OLV & St. Malachy |

| WEEKLY RECEIPTS | OLV | ST. MALACHY |
|---|------------|--------------------|
| December 9 - 10, 2017 - Sunday Collection | \$740.00 | \$232.00 |

A Christmas Message from the Wardens of OLV & St. Malachy

Christmas is a busy time of the year as we attend social gatherings, purchase gifts, decorate our houses with lights and other seasonal items. It should also be a time of reflection on the true meaning of Christmas, the joy and love brought into the world through the birth of Jesus, the Christ Child. On this wondrous occasion, the Wardens of OLV and St. Malachy would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Parishioners a Merry and Blessed Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Christmas Message from Fr. Albanus

Brothers and sisters, here we are again! We are blessed with yet another opportunity to celebrate Christmas. Everyone longed for this but not everyone is that privileged. We thank God for making it possible for us.

“A child is born to us”; and this child is God. This is what we celebrate. The coming of Jesus, the Son of God at Christmas, was and is the best Good News. A Child is born in a manger, that Child is God! a most tremendous tale of all. The Maker of all, heaven and earth, stars and sea, etc., has become a Child on earth for you and me. Our reaction must not be one of fear but awe and wonder.

Imagine that night at the stable. You would see there a poor young woman, Mary, with her husband Joseph, and a new baby. St. Luke in the Gospel (2:1-14) wants to tell us that this birth is not a fiction, but a real event. The birth of Jesus, the Son of God, is identical to that of any other person. That helpless, vulnerable baby is the Anointed One, the long expected Messiah foretold by the Prophets (Mic. 5:1). That is the surprise! How can the Almighty God become a small and powerless baby? Yes, God, in His plan of salvation, does not follow the logic of man. Men expected to see a strong and powerful king. But, instead God sent a child, who, far from helping, is Himself in need of help. He is not born in a great palace, but in a manger, and He does not possess any of the means that people consider absolutely necessary to transform the world: money, arms, power or powerful alliances. Jesus is a perfectly normal child, with just one characteristic: He is poor and among poor people. God chooses poverty and weakness and teaches us to discard the human way of relying on power and strength.

Christmas speaks about God's love. The Baby Jesus, in the manger bespeaks the mystery of God's love for us. God became man so that we might become more like God. He sent His Son, the Light to dispel the darkness of our life. We are called to replicate God's love and light in our world. The presence of God among us is not what we expect, nor where we expect. Thus, we are called to look in the most unlikely places to see Jesus: in the street where the homeless stay; in refugee camps; in the poor; in hospitals and nursing homes; in uncomfortable places and spaces; in new born babies; in hungry children; in wrinkled senior citizens; etc., to see Jesus and respond to Him appropriately.

Christmas is a celebration of gratitude. So, I thank all the parishioners for your contributions, support and prayers. I thank all who help in our celebrations, the wardens, the volunteers of various ministries, the secretary and all those who work behind the scene to keep our parishes going. I welcome the visitors who have come to share the joys of Christmas with us. I wish you all Merry Christmas and a prospective New Year!

THE BISHOP'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 2017

“Let us pray for the older persons in our families and our communities whose experience and wisdom are inspiring models to our society where they contribute, in their own way, to the transmission of faith and the education of new generations.”

Question we ask ourselves: I offer to drive an older person to any of the Christmas time liturgies. I bring the Holy Communion to an older person in my circle of friends if he/she wishes to receive it.

OUR LADY of VICTORY & ST. MALACHY NEWS

OLV Sunday Collection Envelopes: Our temporary envelopes are on the table at the back of the church. New numbers have been assigned so please take these for now.

For Your Information: Just a reminder that Our Lady of Victory parish is a charitable organization that is recognized by Revenue Canada and this enables the parish to provide tax receipts for all envelope holders. Recently, Revenue Canada has increased the tax credit for charitable donations. Therefore, your tax credits on a charitable donation to the parish under the present regulations could be as much as 50% of your charitable donations.

Volunteer Appreciation & 75th Anniversary close up: Will be held on Sunday, January 21st in the Church Hall after mass. All are welcome. To ensure enough food is available please call the office **no later than Monday, January 18th before noon to register.**

Office hours for the holidays:

Wednesday - Dec. 27th & Thursday - Dec. 28th from 9:00-11:00 am and from 1:00-3:00 pm.

Wednesday - Jan. 3rd, & Thursday - Jan 4th, 2018 from 9:00-11:00 am & from 1:00-3:00 pm.

OLV - Mark These Dates on Your Calendar for 2018: More information to follow later.

April 10th - **Card Party** in church hall May 18th - **Spring Supper & Balloon Auction**
June 2nd - **Garage Sale** in church hall Sept 15th - **Family Gathering & Musical Afternoon**

Sacramental Preparation: Anyone wishing to enrol children or youth in sacramental preparation (**Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation**), please notify the Parish Administrator at 819-986-3763. ***You will be notified of an introductory meeting at a later date. Linda.***

COMMUNITY NEWS

La Mie de l'entraide Food Bank: A special Thank You from the local Food Bank for your generous offers over the years. They would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with health and good wishes.

Free Christmas Get Together: The 10th annual "À Noël on se rassemble - At Christmas We Get Together" celebration will once again be held on Christmas Day. This traditional supper is free and is open to all. Everyone is welcome - families who cannot afford a Christmas, those individuals who find themselves alone, perhaps grieving over a loss, or those individuals simply wishing to join in on a Christmas celebration. Again this year, the event will be held at the ***Bowling Alley situated at 210 Sauvé Street starting at 5:00 pm.*** In addition to a traditional Christmas supper (buffet style), the evening will be filled with entertainment, games and gifts. Last year, 130 people participated in this celebration, even Santa Claus who surprised everyone.

The "At Christmas We Get Together" dinner has become a community project to which many citizens contribute: donations, making gifts, one family provides desserts, another prepares the meal, a school class makes the centerpieces, and much more. "I am moved every year by so much help and involvement from many people and organizations, without them this dinner would not be so remarkable" says the founder and organizer of the dinner, Émilie Barrette.

For those who have no transportation, free transportation to the site will be available upon request. More than one third of last year's participants benefited from this service. Those wishing to participate in the dinner simply have to confirm their presence by calling 819-775-1735.