



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

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
**MARCH 31 – APRIL 1, 2018**

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

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	<a href="mailto:olv@videotron.ca">olv@videotron.ca</a>		
Office Hours	Monday - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Wednesday - 9:00 am - 11:00 am Thursday - 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm		
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### MASSES

Thursday	Apr. 5 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 10:00 am	Doris Bulter (10 <sup>th</sup> ann) by Junior & Susan Lemieux James, Margaret & Tom Dorion by The Estate
Friday	April 6 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 11:00	Funeral Mass for Fred McDonnell
Saturday	Apr. 7 <sup>th</sup>	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	Nora Somers by Wilbert & Shirley
Sunday	Apr. 8 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 9:00 am	Joe Doherty by Susan & Family Evelyn Robitaille by Marianne Lotz Bob Dunning by Maureen Julia Martin (15 <sup>th</sup> ann) by The Family Nan Sicard (10 <sup>th</sup> ann) by The Family

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
March 24 - 25 - Sunday Collection	\$394.00	\$337.00
March 24 - 25 - Fuel	329.00	206.00

### My Easter Message for 2018

**Intolerance:** This, according to experts, was the main theme covered in Quebec media during 2017. “It has had an effect on all the news,” according to Jean-François Dumas, president of Influence Communication. In an interview, he commented that “in 2016, fear was the key theme in the media; in 2017, intolerance was the recurring theme in Quebec news.”

**Intolerance:** It fuels wars, gives rise to persecutions, holds onto grudges. It divides families, communities and peoples. It assaults, hurts and kills.

Jesus died on the cross, a victim of intolerance. Leaders of that time could not tolerate the interest he garnered, the message he proclaimed, or his actions which spoke so powerfully. They could have entered into dialogue with him. They could have tried to understand him. It was easier to just get rid of him.

And yet, Jesus did not close the door on anyone. He engaged with people in authority like Nicodemus and with regular folk like the Samaritan woman. He visited the rich like Zacchaeus and Simon and shared table fellowship with

the poor like Lazarus, Mary and Martha. As they nailed him to the cross, he prayed that his executioners would be forgiven.

"Love your enemies," he said, and "do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you." (Luke 6, 27-31)

Jesus did not only call for tolerance, but for love. He not only welcomed the other, he set out to encounter the other. How different the world would be if we put his teaching into practice, if we followed his example.

In a world marked by intolerance and by fear of the other, the resurrection of Jesus shines like a beacon which shows us a path of openness and trust. The God of Jesus Christ does not differentiate between us; he welcomes us all as his beloved children. Let us then live as brothers and sisters.

May 2018 be a year characterized not only by tolerance, but by a spirit of welcoming, deep respect and fruitful dialogue.

**A blessed Easter to all**  
+ Paul-André Durocher

### Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy He has Risen !

Today is Easter Sunday! Easter is the greatest and most important feast in the Church. The Resurrection is the basis of our Christian faith (I Cor. 15:14). It proves that Jesus is God. It is the greatest of the miracles. It is the central theme of the preaching of the Apostles. Jesus prophesied His Resurrection as a sign of His Divinity (Jn. 2:19). It is because of their conviction about Jesus' Resurrection that the Apostles and early Christians could face martyrdom. They would not have done that for a dead leader lying in the tomb. Easter is the assurance of our own resurrection (Jn.11:25-26). It is a feast that gives us hope and encouragement in this world of pain, sorrows and tears; it reminds us that life is worth living. Our belief in the Real Presence of the Risen Jesus in our souls, in the Church, in the Blessed Sacrament, and in Heaven gives meaning to our personal as well as our communal prayer and gives us strength to fight against temptations and freedom from unnecessary worries and fears. Today's readings all speak about this greatest miracle.

The **first reading**, from the Acts of the Apostles, is taken from one of the speeches of St. Peter. He is speaking to a group of newly baptized members of Cornelius' family. In it, St. Peter shares his own experience of Christ's Resurrection and its joy. He summarizes the whole Christian message in a few words: Jesus was a real man who went around doing good and healing the sick; they killed Him by nailing Him on the Cross. God reacted to the wickedness of humans by not leaving His Faithful Servant in the grip of death and raising Him from the dead. Peter also speaks of the mission of the disciples as witnesses to all this. He therefore calls us to reflect on the fundamental truth of our faith; the Resurrection of Christ. He also reminds us of our mission as witnesses to the Resurrection. The Apostles were witnesses because they had been with Jesus after His Resurrection, eaten and drunk with Him, heard His teaching, and had seen His miracles. We may not have really seen or heard all these, but we can still be witnesses to Christ. After our baptism, we should no longer harbor hate, violence, grudges, envy, addictions etc., and all the deeds of death. All these must disappear. We must live like risen people and this will give us the right to witness that Christ is alive. Our testimony will be indubitable as it is founded on verifiable facts and events. St. Paul reminds the Colossians (in the **second reading**) that by virtue of their baptism, they were born to a new life, a life that will reach perfection and total fulfillment not in this world but in the world of God. Good works and deeds are the marks and indicators of this new life in us.

The **Gospel** explains the empty-tomb-experience of Mary Magdalene, Peter and the other Apostle. The experience stirs Mary back to life and shakes the apostles out of their slumber and gets them all excited. On that Easter day, life flares up once again; God has intervened and bursts open the tomb! Alleluia! Our world still has places and situations where death reigns unchallenged and stillness proclaims victory. Power, force, discrimination, injustice, guile, seem at times to rout the forces of life and people feel paralyzed and powerless to oppose evil. We need to avoid discouragement and passivity in the face of evil as this is incompatible with faith in the resurrection of Christ. Easter is the beginning of new things. Contrary to the mentality of the time it is through a woman that God first announces to the world that death has been given a blow. Resurrection is about seeing our world in a new way; Mary did not find what she was looking for, the dead body of Jesus; but she found something better than she could have imagined, the Risen Jesus. Sometimes, the things we want most are not granted to us. What we get instead is an experience of God's new ways of working in our world. The unnamed disciple 'saw and believed.' Each of us is expected to be this disciple and act in the same faith of this disciple. The message of Easter is: the life we give up for our brothers and sisters does not end in death or destruction. It does not end with death but leads to the fullness of life in God. Do we see only the signs of death or do we recognize the signs of resurrection like the unnamed disciple?

**Happy Easter!**

## OUR LADY of VICTORY & ST. MALACHY NEWS

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fred McDonnell, whose service will be at OLV on Friday, April 6 at 11:00 am. Our prayers and sympathy are with his family and friends at this great time of loss.

**Office Hours:** Office will be **CLOSED on Monday, April 2**. Will **OPEN** on Tuesday, April 3 from 1- 4 pm. **Wednesday, April 4, 10-noon and 1-4pm. NO OFFICE HOURS ON THURSDAY, APRIL 5.**

**FELLOWSHIP:** As Easter falls on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in April, no fellowship will be held.

**Card Games & Light Lunch:** Reserve your table before APRIL 3 by contacting: Nancy Lanthier at [nancylanthier@magma.ca](mailto:nancylanthier@magma.ca) or 819-986-8343. **Date: April 10** with lunch at 12:30 pm and games between 1:00 to 4:00 pm. **Cost: \$60.00** for a table of FOUR. **DOOR PRIZES !!!!!**

**HE HAS RISEN! ALLEUIA!**

