





St. Malachy 3889 Route 315 Mayo, Québec

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

**DECEMBER 29-30, 2018** 

J8L 3Z8

Sunday 9:00 AM

490 Charles Street

Gatineau, Québec

J8L 2K5

**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

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#### **MASSES**

Tuesday	Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	OLV @ 9:00 am	Parishioners of OLV & St. Malachy	
Saturday	Jan. 5 <sup>th</sup>	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	George, Francisca & Jack Roos by Ginny Roos	
			Thomas Cavan by The Burke Family	
Sunday	Jan. 6 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 9:00 am	Irene Cosgrove by Shirley Roussel	
			Special Intention by A Parishioner	

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
Dec. 22 - 23, 2018 - Sunday Collection	\$818.00	\$254.00
Dec. 22 - 23, 2018 - Fuel	345.00	182.00
Christmas Flowers	269.00	

## Christmas Mass Schedule for OLV & St. Malachy

Saturday, December 29th: Mass at 7 pm at St. Malachy (Father Dan Hawkins)

Sunday, December 30th: Mass at 9 am at Our Lady of Victory (Father Dan Hawkins) Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019: Mass at 9 am at Our Lady of Victory (Father Dan Hawkins)

#### NO THURSDAY MORNING MASSES DURING FATHER ALBANUS' ABSENCE.

### Monthly Prayer Intentions of Our Bishop December, 2018

"Let us pray for all those who will walk to the light of Christmas while matching their deeds and their words to help Life spring out around them."

Question I ask myself: Mary and Joseph find their child three days after losing him. What is more natural than searching for one's child? If there are mothers who had to leave their child to be adopted, I try to help them.

#### **CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2018**

## MGR PAUL-ANDRÉ DUROCHER

Christmas, a Season of Gifts: donating gifts, receiving gifts, surprising gifts, disappointing gifts, amazing gifts, etc.! We could write books about certain gift-giving anecdotes!

I could tell you the story of a child who received a flute and politely tucked it away in a drawer, where it remained for several years ... Until adolescence, when curiosity prevailed and gave birth to a passion for music that lasted to this day. Or the story of the first gift bought with one's own money - a true source of pride.

We could share many stories about gifts, but the most precious gifts are not manufactured, they cannot be bought, they cannot be hidden under the bed in anticipation for the holidays, they are intangible: joy, enlightenment, a meaningful relationship. These gifts fill our hearts and when they disappear from our lives, they leave an empty space... but our hearts are fuller because of them, able to love with more generosity and sincerity.

On December 25th, why not take the time to appreciate the gifts that are part of our daily lives and that we may take for granted? Above all, let us not forget the most wonderful of gifts: God who gave Himself to us through a beautiful child, born two thousand years ago, to show us the way, the truth and the life.

If we welcome Him, if we open our hearts to Him, He will settle there and never leave. He will be our eternal source of peace and joy.

## To you and your loved ones, Merry Christmas!

# **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.

Image 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. Good 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 babes; 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 parishs 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!

# **OUR LADY of VICTORY & ST. MALACHY NEWS**

Vacation: Father Albanus will be leaving on Dec. 27 and returning Jan. 29.

Office Hours: Please note the change in the office hours for the holiday season.

Monday, December 31 - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Thursday, January 3 - 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

