

MASSES

Thursday	Oct 24 th	OLV @ 10:00 a.m.	All Parishioners of OLV & St. Malachy				
Saturday	Oct. 26 th	St. Malachy @ 7:00 p.m.	Nora & Deceased Members of the Somers & Ryan Families by				
			The Estate				
Sunday	Oct. 27 th	OLV @ 9:00 a.m.	Maureen Dunning by Val, Lewis & Family				
			Paul Jeffrey by Susan & Junior Lemieux				
			Tom Dorion (3 rd ann) by Bill & Linda Cameron				
			Peter Burke by Family & Friends				

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY			
Oct. 12 - 13, 2019 - Sunday Offering	\$595.00	\$186.00			
Thank you for your contribution					

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Today, on World Mission Sunday, we are invited to celebrate our mission's vocation, to pray for the people who are actively engaged in mission, and to generously contribute to our worldwide mission solidarity fund through this collection. Your gift on this day helps:

People in remote villages, towns and cities, through the witness and work of missionaries and local priests; Children, the elderly, refugees, the sick, and orphans through the services of religious Sisters and Brothers; To bring the Gospel to the poorest of our human family; Catechists proclaim the message of hope and peace that only Christ can give.

Please offer your prayers for the work of the Church in the missions today and be as generous as you can on World Mission Sunday.

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

Constancy in Prayer

Today's readings centre on prayer. They speak about perseverance in prayer, constancy in prayer and trust in God as we pray. They also speak about the justice of God that reaches out to the poor and weak enabling them to fight against injustice. In the **first reading**, Moses makes tireless intercession with constancy for the victory of Israelites in the war. As long as Moses keeps his arms raised, the Israelites do well, but when his arms lower, his army seems to be losing. Moses therefore "stays with his prayer" until the enemy is defeated. His persistence spells military victory for Israel. St. Paul, in the **second reading**, tells Timothy to persevere in his ministry; to proclaim the word of God with persistence in all circumstances and to use it to *"teach, reprove, correct and train in righteousness."* Jesus' parable of the unjust judge and the persistent widow emphasizes the "necessity of praying always and not losing heart."

Jesus, by this gospel, is not comparing God to the unjust judge thereby suggesting that he answers prayer only to avoid being bothered. The point being made by Jesus is that if a godless judge can restore justice to a person persistently pleading for redress, how much more will a God of justice surely act in favour of those who plead unceasingly with their hearts. In an age accustomed to instant coffee and instant results, we are impatient with what appears to be endless delays. To be noted, however, is that the values we cherish are not instantly available. Values like peace and justice take time to establish. The danger is that we give up too quickly, that we rest our case too easily. Persistence is needed; we have to invest our time in what we believe. The parable, we remember, is told by Jesus to teach His disciples the need to pray always, without tiring. Prayer is a great and necessary means if one wants to keep one's faith, even during the most difficult and dramatic moments, when everything seems to be against us and against the kingdom of God.

Brothers and sisters, we need to combine formal prayers with active prayers. Our formal, liturgical prayers are important. Our personal prayers are important too. But bringing ourselves into God's presence during our works several times in the course of our day is also needed. There is a Latin adage 'laborare est orare' (to work is to pray). A consistent commitment to good in carrying out our daily duties is prayer of a sort; a very important one for that matter. A combination of formal prayers and prayers in action (active prayers) enables us to pray always and pray with constancy and trusting perseverance.

The prayer that today's **Gospel** speaks of is not a monotonous repeating of formulas. True prayer, the one that should never stop or be interrupted, consists in keeping up a constant dialogue with the Lord. It means never to take a decision without first speaking or consulting God, without first assessing with Him every event of our life. If we let down our arms (as in the first reading), we shall be immediately overwhelmed by adverse circumstances and when the Lord comes to save us, we shall be found without faith and unprepared to receive Him. Finally, we have to realize that God does not write a blank check thereby guaranteeing whatever we want in whatever forms we ask for it. He knows what we need and when we need it and how to give it. Sincere and persistent prayer makes us ready to accept His will. Such prayer reshapes our hearts to God's original design. Such prayer does not change God; instead it changes us. Prayer must become like eating and breathing. We have to eat daily. We also have to take breaths always.

Happy Sunday!

OUR LADY of VICTORY & ST. MALACHY NEWS

<u>An Update on a Capital Expenditure (OLV)</u>: The OLV Wardens have contracted to replace the windows in the hallway that connects the rectory to the church. The total cost of this project is \$6,346.57. The windows should be installed within 5 to 6 weeks. The contract is with Thermos Vision located in Masson. This investment is a continuation of the ongoing strategy to control heating costs.

<u>OLV Needs Your Support</u>: A key to our success as a Faith Community is our ability to adequately support the celebration of the most Holy Eucharist (mass) every Sunday. That support comes in many forms such as community attendance and active support for key activities. Three key areas we need to look at and where there are issues are Lectors, Servers and Eucharistic Ministers.

<u>Servers</u>: Presently, our two remaining Servers have agreed to provide their services every other week, except for during the summer months when there are no servers. When there is no server, some of the duties are transferred to the Eucharistic Minister. *These servers are also on duty for funerals.*

Eucharistic Ministers: Presently there are three Eucharistic Ministers, who have been providing this service to our parish for many years. This involves setting up the altar before the mass celebration, assisting the priest during the Eucharist, and returning all vessels, etc. to the sacristy after the celebration. *We need to find more volunteers who are willing to become Eucharistic Ministers.*

Lectors: Presently there are four Lectors; they read approximately once a month, and as a result of a shortage of Eucharistic Ministers, also act as the second Eucharistic Minister. The problem is that two of these Lectors are away over the winter months, thus putting more pressure on the two remaining to play the dual roles of Lector and second Eucharistic Minister. *Therefore, we need to find a minimum of two more volunteers.*

Considering that there are fewer and fewer parishioners every year at our Sunday celebrations, the burden of responsibility in our few remaining Ministers is very heavy. Please consider the fact that as a spiritual community, we all need to do our share if we are to continue to be successful. *We are presently coming to a crisis point when it comes to our volunteer base.*

