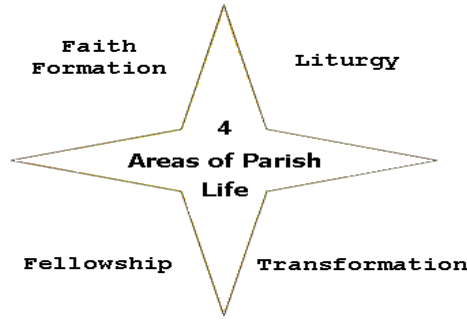




**Our Lady of Victory**  
490 Charles Street  
Gatineau, Québec  
J8L 2K5



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

**2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 8-9, 2018**

**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](mailto: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](http://www.stmalachyolv.com)



180, boul. Mont-Bleu  
Gatineau (QC) J8Z 3J5  
[www.diocesegatineau.org](http://www.diocesegatineau.org)

**MASSES**

Thursday	Dec. 13th	OLV @ 10:00 am	James, Margaret & Tom Dorion by The Estate Evelyn Robitaille by Family & Friends
Saturday	Dec. 15th	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	Special Intention by A Pilgrim
Sunday	Dec. 16th	OLV @ 9:00 am	Peter Burke by Eunice, Bruce & McDonnell Family James, Margaret & Tom Dorion by The Estate

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
Dec. 1 - 2, 2018 - Sunday Collection	\$495.00	\$272.00
Dec. 1 - 2, 2018 - Support	165.00	224.00
Dec. 1 - 2, 2018 - Christmas Flowers		172.00

**Christmas and New Year's Mass Schedule:**

Monday	Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm	OLV (Father Bill)
		9:00 pm	St. Malachy (Father Bill)
Tuesday	Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am	OLV (Father Bill)
Saturday	Dec. 29 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm	St. Malachy (Father Dan Hawkins)
Sunday	Dec. 30 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am	OLV (Father Dan Hawkins)
Monday	Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup>		<b>NO MASS</b>
Tuesday	Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	9:00 am	OLV (Father Dan Hawkins)

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

**Question I ask myself:** A Montreal organization, Notre-Dame-de-la-Rue, acts as a presence to the more helpless people in our society. In our region, the Gîte-Ami is a shelter and a service center for people on the street. What may I do to show God's love for helpless people?

**Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy**  
**Prepare the way for the Lord.**

The Second Sunday of Advent presents to us a challenge: prepare a way for the Lord in our hearts so that we may receive Him as our savior during this Christmas. We have four voices (Baruch, the Psalmist, Paul, and John the Baptist) speaking to us this Sunday, encouraging us to imagine a good future that God has in store for us. They all invite us to imagine the best and then act accordingly. In the **first reading**, the Prophet Baruch speaks of the Lord, the God of Israel, preparing the way for, and leading, the Babylonian exiles, to Jerusalem. He asks the people to change their wardrobe, to throw away the dress of sorrow and distress and wrap the cloak of God's integrity around them, to 'stand upon the height' to watch the return of the exiles. The Psalmist asks the people to imagine a time when they will no longer be in bondage sowing in tears but will come home with shouts of joy carrying a harvest of goods. In the **second reading** Paul compliments the Philippians for helping him in his work, tells them how much he loves them, and invites them to prepare themselves for Christ's Second Coming by practicing Christian love and by leading pure and blameless lives. In the **Gospel**, John the Baptist challenges the Jews to prepare their lives for receiving their long-awaited Messiah. They ought to repent for their sins, renew their lives and express their repentance. John is traveling around the Jordan district announcing the great day to come when 'all flesh' shall see the salvation of God.

The forgoing shows that none of these voices assaults people with the bare truth, which could serve only to deepen their helplessness; people are not just asked to dwell with the worst in them. There is always in each of them a voice of hope encouraging people to change their ways and grow because good things will come of it. People are thus invited to imagine the best there is in God and in themselves and give that best the opportunity to take charge of their lives. During this Advent, we all need help and encouragement to abandon our familiar ways which have become destructive. *We need help in imagining ourselves differently, and imagining the good effect that will have on others. We have to take time to reflect what kind of person God wants us to be, what His plan is for us. We need faith in the future, to see the power of God working in the change; to have Paul's certainty that God will not abandon us in our halting efforts, but "that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished"* (Unknown Author and Book).

Advent, though a time of joyous anticipation, is also a penitential time. As a penitential time we are invited to change. To change, we need each other's help and encouragement; we need others prodding us on. We need to call out the best in each other like Paul does with his converts, and rejoice with people in the changes they had made for the better. Paul himself also had to make big changes in his own life. If our community is to be constantly converted to the Lord we all have to breathe in encouragement and breathe it out. What does this change entail? We have to fill in the "valleys" of our souls, formed from our shallow prayer life and a minimalist way of living our faith. We have to straighten out whatever crooked paths we have been walking, clear away all the debris in our lives, overcome our unwillingness to forgive, dishonesty in our dealing with others. We have to level the "mountain" of our pride and egocentricism by practicing the true humility of rendering humble service to others. We need to repent and seek forgiveness from God and fellow human beings. John calls us to confront and confess our sins. We need to turn away from them in sincere repentance and receive God's forgiveness. We need to forgive others who have offended us and ask forgiveness for our offenses. Happy Sunday!

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

**Penitential Service:** Will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 18th at OLV at 7:00 pm.

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

**Request:** Do you have any spare towels, face cloths, bed linen and blankets (for double bed) you would like to give? Please contact Monique to arrange drop-off.

**Christmas Tea:** Beautiful day and great fellowship for our Christmas Tea where a profit of **\$1,500** was realized. Winners of the blankets: Bill Cameron and Charlotte. Winner of the gift basket was Ethel Pearson. A special thanks to André Labelle of Weston Bakeries for the generous donation of bread for our sandwiches. His on-going support is greatly appreciated. To all a huge **THANKS** from your coordinators Susan and Monique.

**St. Malachy - Election of Wardens** - Each year church wardens are to be elected for a term of three years and can remain in office for two consecutive terms. At the present time we have one warden who has served his/her two terms and since no one came forward, agreed to remain until a replacement could be found, and one position becoming vacant. If you or someone you know, with his/her approval, would be interested in serving as a warden and help the Parish in that capacity, please submit the name to a member of the Fabrique or call of the office at 819 986-3763 by **December 13, 2018**. If an election is necessary it will be held on December 15 after Mass. Thank you.



**Sign the Action Card. Spread the word!** In 2017, there were 68.5 million children, women, and men uprooted from their homes. The majority of them are currently in some of the poorest countries on the planet. What can we do? This year, **Development and Peace – Caritas Canada** is proposing several ways to take action, one of which is to Sign the Action Card and educate your family and friends on the root causes of forced migration. Next weekend, we will provide more information about the campaign and ask parishioners to Sign the Action Card which reads as follows:

Dear Prime Minister,

Canada needs to do more to address the root causes of forced migration. In addition to providing humanitarian aid for refugees and their host countries, I am asking you to make a commitment to:

Support grassroots organizations working for peace, democracy and human rights; and

Invest more in diplomatic and peaceful solutions to armed conflicts.

No one should be forced to flee their home.

### COMMUNITY NEWS

**La Chanterelle Concert:** Wednesday, **December 12** at 7:30 pm at Our Lady of Victory Church.

**The Lions Club Annual Blitz** held last Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Knights of Columbus Hall was once again a success, with over \$83,000 raised. A total of \$815.00 was raised by our two parishes and presented to the Lions Club during the Blitz. Lions Club members expressed their appreciation for our parishes continued generosity in the telethon and asked that thanks be conveyed to all parishioners concerned. Many thanks!



**The Media Food Drive (La Guignolée des Médias)** held December 6 at three local roadblocks from 6 to 9 a.m. generated \$7,600 and many bags of non-perishable food were also donated. All the proceeds of these three local roadblocks go to the local food bank, **La Mie de l'entraide** located at **129 Joseph Street**. Many thanks to all who contributed to this worthwhile cause!