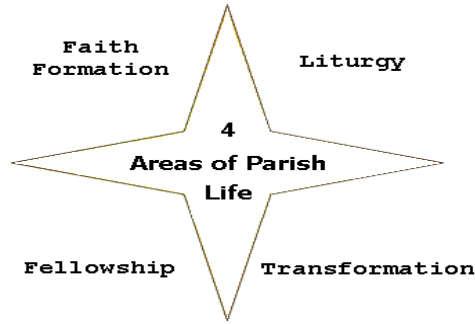




Our Lady of Victory
490 Charles Street
Gatineau, Québec
J8L 2K5



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

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

February 21-22, 2015

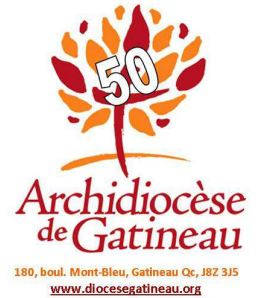
Sunday 9:00 AM

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
Office Hours **Tuesday - 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm**
Thursday - 9:00 am - 11:00 am
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Telephone (819) 986-3763
Fax (819) 961-3159
Website www.stmalachyolv.com

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Gatineau (QC) J8Z 3J5
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Food for Thought

Reading 1 Genesis 9.8-15
Responsorial Psalm Your paths, Lord, are love and faithfulness for those who keep your covenant.
Reading II 1 Peter 3.18-22
Gospel Mark 1.12-15

The wilderness is the place of destruction and danger, of being tempted off one's path, and also of meeting God. Jesus finds God's path for Him in the wilderness.

Prayer is a wilderness time. It can be dangerous for it brings us in touch with the evil as well as with the good in ourselves. With practice, it introduces us to the peace of God in Christ – the harmony of the desert of Jesus. It is also the place of rededication to God and of finding the strength of God.

MASSES

Thursday	Feb. 26th	OLV @ 10:00 am	All parishioners
Saturday	Feb. 28 th	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	Benjamin French (22ann) by the family Reggie Lavell & Peter & Marilyn Roos by Ginny Roos
Sunday	Mar. 1st	OLV @ 9:00 am	Carmel Gauthier by the family in celebration of her 100 th birthday

Parishioners are invited to join in praying the Rosary before all Masses

OUR MOUNTAIN CLIMBING TOWARDS EASTER (Continued)

How will we mark our 40-day trek to Easter? The traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are very commendable. Some may argue, didn't we get rid of most of the rules about Lenten discipline? Yes, that is true, but it makes a lot of sense to still observe the practices, as long as we keep in mind what they are aiming at: to get us in shape for **Easter**.

Prayer: Our Sunday liturgies, with their rich Bible readings, provide the basic orientation for Lent. How about making a special effort to read them again in the course of the week? Perhaps doing it as a family.

Fasting: During Lent, we normally refrain from some food, a drink, a party, from a movie. We can do this as a gesture of solidarity with so many of those in our world who have no choice in these matters for the simple reason that they do not have them. We can also make these sacrifices for ourselves, showing that we can distance ourselves from so much of our consumer society.

Almsgiving: This flows naturally from the previous two practices. Almsgiving says we care for others even to the point of depriving ourselves from something. How about we put the money that we save by some form of fasting aside and make it into our contributions to the **Development and Peace Share Lent** collection on the 5th Sunday of Lent.

WELCOMING, A JOURNEY TOWARDS EASTER

We started our Lenten voyage on Ash Wednesday. As noted in previous bulletins, **Free the Gift, Share the Word** has been chosen as the theme for the Diocesan Pastoral Priorities for 2014-2017. For year one, the focus is on welcoming. The Archbishop has suggested that we celebrate this Lenten season under a common banner - **"Welcoming, A Journey towards Easter."** Part of this journey includes the singing of the theme composed by the Archbishop, **"Teach us, Loving God."** Copies of the hymn can be found at the entrance.

The Gospel readings for the five Sundays of Lent this year really lend themselves well to an ongoing reflection on the role of welcoming in a Christian life. Each Sunday there will be a paragraph in the bulletin reflecting on the readings to assist parishioners with their special Lenten prayer intentions

1st SUNDAY – WELCOMING, A WAY OF CONVERSION

Jesus proclaims that the times are fulfilled, that the Kingdom of God is at hand, and that we should be converted. To be converted means to change our hearts. Welcoming is the first step in such a conversion, for we must begin by welcoming the Word of God as a transforming Word. And our answer must include the decision to welcome those around us: this is a necessary step in living out the Kingdom of justice, peace and joy that Jesus came to inaugurate among us.



DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE – **Sowing seeds of love through 15,200 projects and partnerships**

We have to state, without mincing words, that there is an inseparable bond between our faith and the poor. May we never abandon them. – Pope Francis, The Joy of the Gospel, 48.

For nearly 50 years, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE has been committed to nurturing the bond between the faith of Canadian Catholics and the poorest of our brothers and sisters in the human family. Since our founding in 1967, Canadian Catholics have supported 15,200 local initiatives around the world through your generous donations to the annual Share Lent Campaign. These initiatives, in areas such as agriculture, education, community action, peacebuilding and citizen participation, continue to help the poor today. The Share Lent collection is on the Fifth Sunday of Lent – Solidarity Sunday – March 22nd. Learn more at devp.org.

OUR LADY OF VICTORY NEWS

Valentine's Dance

Last Saturday, the Parish held its annual Valentine's Dance at Charlie's Ranch. Although the turnout for the event was low with only 98 tickets being sold, those in attendance had a great time with excellent music being provided by Lorne Daly, Peter Dawson and the Ricochet Riders. Profits for the evening were \$502.

Gas Conversion Project

The Diocese has approved the Parish's plan to convert its oil-based heating system to a gas-based system. The successful bid was submitted by Alpha Combustible. The total value of the bid is \$24,580 plus tax, with work commencing in the spring. The cost of heating resulting from this conversion is expected to be \$11,000 per year. Last year our oil bill was \$28,000. Based on the projected savings from gas, our investment will be recovered within a year and a half. As construction commences, we will keep parishioners updated on progress.

Garage Sale

Our Lady of Victory is holding a Garage Sale on Saturday, April 11th. This is where **YOU** purchase a table for \$20.00 and get rid of your special treasures. Please contact Monique or Ann if interested.

COMMUNITY NEWS

St. Aloysius Parish is holding a Murder Mystery on February 27th and 28th for \$10.00 either evening. Call 819 663-5244 for tickets and more information.

The Royal Canadian Legion will be holding a St. Patrick's Party on March 14th at the Legion Hall. The party will run from 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm. Ticket price is \$10.00 and can be obtained at the Legion Hall. There will also be door prizes. Music will be provided by Al Visser.

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
February 14-15, 2015 – Sunday Offering	\$580.00	\$210.00