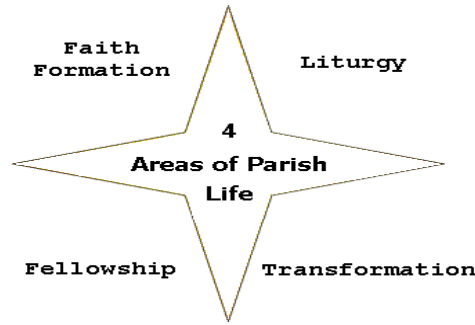




**Our Lady of Victory**  
490 Charles Street  
Gatineau, Québec  
J8L 2K5



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

**FIRST SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT  
NOVEMBER 26 - 27, 2016**

**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  
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### Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

Advent: How to Prepare

Today, we begin another annual pilgrimage through the events of our history of salvation. We usually start with Advent, the preparation for the birthday celebration of Jesus and ending with the reflection on his glorious "second coming" as judge at the end of the world. The Latin word, Adventus (a translation of the Greek parousia) was used by the Pagan world to mean the "coming," arrival or approach of their god. It was also used to mean the "visit" of the king to a city or the crowning day of a sovereign. For us Christians, Advent refers to the coming of our God in the world, in Jesus Christ. It is a time Christians set aside to prepare for this coming. One could rightly ask "But hasn't Jesus come already? Why prepare again? Is Christmas just a birthday feast for Jesus and Advent the time for buying food and drinks, inviting friends, learning songs and dances?" No, Advent is nothing of all this. Unlike the pagans, Christians feast and dance on Christmas Day, but there is more to the feast. The readings of these coming Sundays tell us that Jesus has not come once. He continues to come. He comes and is present in all cheerful or sad events of our lives, in all that happens in the world and in the Church, in all those who spread new ideas, utter words of love, peace, reconciliation, in those who strive to build a new world (Fernando Armellini, SCI, 1995).

We see in our churches the traditional signs of Advent: violet vestments and hangings, dried flowers on the altar, and the Advent wreath. These signs remind us that we have to prepare for the rebirth of Jesus in our hearts and lives, enabling him to radiate his love, mercy, compassion and forgiveness around us. Jesus comes and keeps coming but we have to be ready to recognize him, to perceive his presence in every event of our lives. Today's readings as well as all the readings of Advent invite us to be vigilant, to keep our eyes wide open in order to discover and prepare the ways that Jesus has chosen to come and free us from the evil in which we seek happiness, while it only causes a lot of sorrow. We are being asked to listen to Jesus so that as Isaiah in the first reading says, "he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." St. Paul in the second reading echoes the same sentiment, "you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep." He advises the Roman Christians to get ready by freeing themselves from drunken orgies, wrangling and jealousies. The same advice is directed to us.

The Gospel does not sound different. Jesus refers to Noah's days. During his days, everyone was busy about the normal: eating and drinking, making new relationships, holding onto old ones, while Noah, with his family, was busy building the ark. In the end, he was the only one ready for something others were doing nothing about, the impending flooding. So Jesus asks us to "keep awake for we do not know on what day your Lord is coming." The only way to be ready for the unpredictable event is to make the now a time of fidelity; and the only way to secure the future is to care about the present. If we did, there will be nothing to fear. Jesus comes to save us, to make us happy, but we must constantly keep awake so as not to miss his coming.

### MASSES

Thursday	Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>OLV @ 10:00 am</b>	<b>Rupert McCoy and Deceased Members of the McCoy Family</b> by the Estate
Saturday	Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Anne Way</b> by Julie Kavanaugh
Sunday	Dec. 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>OLV @ 9:00 am</b>	<b>Kay Lemieux</b> by the Community <b>Joan Teske</b> by Regis Lemieux <b>Philip Pearson</b> by Tom and Isabel Laframboise <b>Deceased Members of the Findlay and Carriere Families</b> by the Family

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
Nov 19 - 20, 2016 - Sunday	\$430.00	\$297.00

### THE ARCHBISHOP'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTIONS: NOVEMBER 2016

“For the countries hosting refugees and displaced in large numbers,  
may they be supported in their solidarity”

**Questioning ourselves: Sunday, November 27, 2016:** On this first Sunday of Advent, I reflect on my personal action to speak of the global crisis of migrants. I keep these people in my prayers during Advent.

### ADVENT

The church looks a bit different today, and the music, prayers, and Scripture readings will be of a different tone, compared to what we have experienced for the last 5-6 months. We are moving out of “Ordinary Time” into the Advent season. But Advent is about more than a change of colour and different music.

Advent is very much about reawakening in us the hope for Christ's coming in glory, not something to be feared or to be indifferent about, to be eagerly awaited and to even be worked for. In fact, it is a hoping and longing for God's kingdom of peace, justice and love. That is what Christ was sent for in the first place, something that is still far from being reality.

**Advent Banners:** We are fortunate to have a set of Advent Banners that are very much in tune with the basic orientation of the Advent Season and with how the Church understands that season as expressed in one of its official documents: “Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ’s first coming to us is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period of devout and joyful expectation.”

One banner depicts Mary upon whom the Spirit of God rested having thus conceived her Son Jesus. The other banner is Lady Wisdom, surrounded by four Old Testament prophets who, in striking images, spell out what the promised Messiah is coming for – something we hear proclaimed

In the first reading of the Advent Season: a new kind of world that Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of, but that is still to be constructed in many ways.

**Advent Wreath:** We also have the Advent Wreath with four candles representing the four weeks of Advent. The lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding Our Lord’s first coming into the world and the light signifies Christ, the Light of the world.

**Advent Literature:** To assist us in preparing for Christmas, we have various reflection literatures available, which can be found at the entrance – feel free to take a copy.

### To the priests, Deacons and Lay Pastoral Associates

Next Wednesday, **November 30**, will mark the fifth anniversary of the inauguration of my pastoral ministry in the Archdiocese of Gatineau. I invite you to join me on this occasion to celebrate the feast of Saint Andrew, Apostle, and to ask the Lord to continue to bless our local Church. The Mass will take place at **St. Joseph's Cathedral and will begin at 7:00 pm**. Coffee and cookies will be served in the Church basement afterwards. Thank you for extending this invitation to your parishioners during this weekend's Masses.

**In all friendship, † Paul-André**

## OUR LADY of VICTORY & ST. MALACHY NEWS

**Our Lady of Victory Tea:** Our annual Christmas Tea will be *Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>* from: **1:30 to 3:30 pm** and cost is **\$6.00**.

*If you have not been contacted please consider this your invitation to donate.*

The church doors will be opened to receive your goodies for the Craft Table, Food Table and Kitchen as follows:

Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm  
Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 am

**Please arrange to have all your donations in prior to the start of the tea.**

**St. Malachy Warden's Meeting:** Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Sacristy.

**St. Malachy - Election of Wardens:** Every year two Church wardens are to be elected for a term of three years and may remain in office for two consecutive terms. At the present time there are two wardens who have exceeded their two terms of service and one who will be completing his/her sixth year. In these times of financial constraints, it is more important than ever that new wardens are selected to ensure new ideas and approaches are put forward for the continued operation of the Church.

If you or someone you know would like to serve as a warden and help the Parish in this capacity, please submit his/her name, with permission, to a member of the Fabrique, by calling the office at 819-986-3763, or by dropping the name in the collection basket at Mass. Names should be submitted by December 10<sup>th</sup>. An election will be held on December 17<sup>th</sup> after Mass. Thank you for your consideration to this most important matter.

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

Thursday	Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 pm	OLV - Penitential Service
Saturday	Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 pm	St. Malachy (no Christmas Eve Mass at OLV)
Sunday	Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am	OLV
Saturday	Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup>	7:00 pm	St. Malachy
Sunday	Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	9:00 am	OLV



The Lions Club annual telethon will be held and broadcast on our local cable station on **Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from noon to 9:00 pm**. As we have done for several years, our two parishes will participate in the Lions Club Telethon. **Contributions to the Telethon can be made by placing your donation – cash or cheque made out to the Lions Club – in a plain envelope with Lions Club on the front, and add it to the regular collection the next two weekends.** *If you wish a tax receipt from the Lions Club, please ensure that your name and address are included with your donation so that a receipt can be returned to you.*

Christmas is a time of giving, of thanking God for all we have. It is also an opportune time to reach out and help those less fortunate than ourselves.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Clothing Requests:** The charitable organization, Just Equipping, who rents space in the OLV Rectory, is looking for clothing for men in African prisons. The following items are requested: jogging pants, hoodies, long sleeve shirts, socks and underwear. These can be dropped off at OLV during the secretary's office hours. Also they would appreciate any old suitcases in good condition.

**Heart & Soul Christmas Concert:** Will be held on December 1st at 7:30 pm at OLV. Tickets are \$5.00 in advance or \$10.00 at the door. See members for tickets.

**La Chanterelle Christmas Concert:** Will be held on December 14th at 7:30 pm at OLV. Tickets are \$20.00. Children, 12 years of age and under, FREE