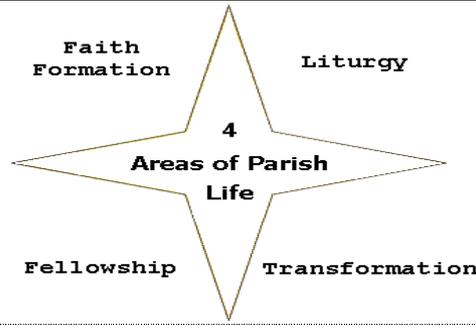




**Our Lady of Victory**  
490 Charles Street  
Gatineau, Québec  
J8L 2K5



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

**FOURTH SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 17 - 18, 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: God is with us!**

The readings of this Sunday speak of Jesus the "One who is to come", born of a Virgin as Emmanuel, "God with us". In the first reading, the Prophet Isaiah prophesied to King Ahaz of Judah who was worried and upset because his enemies had decided to kill him and his family (of David). He forgot that as a member of that great family, God has promised them an everlasting kingdom (2 Sam. 7:14-16). He did not place much faith in the divine promises. He trusted more in human reckoning and so sought the alliance with Assyria, a then powerful kingdom, at the risk of endangering the faith and religious integrity of the people of God. So the Prophet went to him and spoke to him face to face. The king was not to be afraid and was to put his trust in God and not in Assyria for God is always with them. Isaiah then gave King Ahaz a sign "... *the young woman is with a child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.*" In the second reading, St Paul explains that the only begotten Son of God became incarnate as Jesus, was revealed and established by the Father as Son of God in power by his Resurrection from the dead. Then Paul provides a sweeping summary of God's mighty acts in history through Jesus Christ.

In the Gospel, Matthew wants us to understand that the Son of Mary is the promised heir to the throne of David announced by the prophets. Hezekiah, the son of Ahaz (in the first reading) was a good man and also an "Emmanuel", that is the sign of God's presence among the people and the house of David but nothing more. He certainly did not fully fulfil Isaiah's promises we have heard in the past Sundays and this Sunday. So, the Gospel tells us that the Son of the maiden announced by the Prophet is Jesus. He is the true "Emmanuel", the "God with us". He will be given an everlasting kingdom and all the hopes of Israel will be accomplished in Him. This passage is the beginning of the Gospel of Matthew. The theme, "Emmanuel", will appear again at the end of Matthew's Gospel. There, we are told that Jesus, after his resurrection, manifested Himself to His disciples on the mountain in Galilee and sent them into the whole world to make disciples of all the nations. Jesus then added: "and know that I am with you ('Emmanuel') always, yes, to the end of time" (Mt. 28:20).

It is very important to note the virginity of Mary. The Gospel is clear about the fact that she conceived of the Holy Spirit, and this in the mind of the Church means that Jesus did not have a human father. A virgin mother is unprecedented in religious traditions. It is a truth that is radically new and will definitely always shock people. The Holy Spirit, which came to Mary, is the force which made the beginning of creation. It is also the force which makes the beginning of this new creation. Through the Holy Spirit, the Virgin Mary conceives and gives birth to the Son of God and new creation comes to life. The virgin in the Bible means something more than what we know. It means a worthless woman, who had not even been able to draw the interest of a man; a dried-up tree deserving commiseration (Is 56:3-6). It is more or less a derogatory term biblically speaking (Jer. 3:4; 14:17; Is 47:1). But as Mary exclaims, *"The Almighty has done great things for me"* (Lk. 1:48-49). Mary, the Virgin Mother is the proof of the greatness and of the power of the love of God, who can draw life from a barren womb. As we approach Christmas, let us contemplate what the Lord has worked in our Mother Mary and realize that with God among us ("Emmanuel"), all good and great things are possible.

### MASSES

Thursday	Dec. 22nd	OLV	NO MASS
Saturday	Dec. 24th	OLV @ 7:00 pm	All Parishioners of OLV & St. Malachy
		St. Malachy @ 9:00 pm	All Parishioners of St. Malachy & OLV
Sunday	Dec. 25th	OLV @ 9:00 am	All Parishioners of OLV & St. Malachy

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
Dec 10 - 11, 2016 - Sunday	\$990.00	\$294.00

### The Archbishop's Monthly Intentions: December 2016

"So that each of us contributes to the common good and the building of a society that puts the human person as its basic value."

#### Questioning ourselves Sunday, December 18, 2016:

Sunday, December 18, 2016: Have Syrian refugees been recently welcomed in my parish? I could take a little time as a family to visit them, talk to them about Canadian Christian traditions, and offer them homemade pastries.

### 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>	7:00 pm	OLV
Saturday	Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 pm	St. Malachy
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

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

**Office hours:** Note that on Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> the office hours will be 1 - 4 pm. No change in hours for Wednesday and Thursday. No change during the week of January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Holidays:** Father Albanus will be away from January 2 to February 3, 2017. Our weekend masses will be celebrated by Father Jean de Dieu Ntibeshya. Our Christmas Eve mass will be celebrated by Father Anthony Ibeazor.

**Thursday Mass:** There will be no Thursday masses from December 22 to February 2. Will begin again on February 9, 2017

**Fellowship:** There will be **NO** fellowship after mass on **January 1**. Will resume again on Sunday, February 5.

**Some leftovers!** Many activities have taken place in our parishes over the last few weeks and there are some “leftover” comments to be shared with parishioners.

**OLV Christmas Tea** – The craft table had some leftover items which were donated: hand-knitted dishcloths were given to the Daily Bread Project at Buckingham Elementary School, and hand-knitted hats, scarves and mitts were joyfully received at La Maison de la Famille. As well, leftover food from the Tea was served at the monthly Coffee and Fellowship Sunday held on December 4th.

**Lions Club Telethon** – Donations to the telethon are still arriving – the new total collected from St. Malachy and Our Lady of Victory parishes is \$950.

**The Buckingham Friendship Club** – A heartfelt Thank You to the Buckingham Friendship Club for their generous donation of non-perishable foods and other items in support of both the Daily Bread Project and La Mie de l’entraide food bank.

**Heart & Soul Concert:** Thank you for their generous donation of \$450.00.

**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration - OLV:**

2017 marks the year Our Lady of Victory will be celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The first mass was said on January 25<sup>th</sup> 1942, just three days after the Parish was officially decreed on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

On January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017, on the exact date of the decree establishing our parish, a commemorative mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Paul-André Durocher at **10:00 am**. The mass will be followed by a brunch where present and former parishioners can share fellowship and renew acquaintances. It is our hope to attract as many past and present parishioners to this event as possible. So spread the word.

In order for us to plan for the brunch, for which there will be no charge, we need your cooperation; some forward planning is required. **Tickets are limited, so please be sure to register by calling the office at 819-986-3763 or Mike Legault at 819-281-4870.**

Also, following mass on January 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> we will be accepting requests for tickets to attend the brunch. **Tickets will be mandatory to attend.** Don’t be disappointed.

During the year other celebration events are planned and details will follow at a later date.