

MASSES	
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Thursday	July 20th	OLV @ 10:00 am	NO MASS		
Saturday	July 22nd	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	For All The Holy Souls by Ginny Roos		
Sunday	July 23rd	OLV @ 9:00 am	Augustine Okafor by Nicole Charbonneau Alma Miller by Barbara & Scott Weir James, Margaret & Tom Dorion by The Estate The Laframboise Family & Mary Elizabeth Laframboise by The Estate		
Thursday	July 27th	OLV @ 10:00 am	Doris Lemieux by Regis Lemieux James, Margaret & Tom Dorion by The Estate		
Saturday	July 29th	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	For All The Holy Souls by Ginny Roos		
Sunday	July 30th	OLV @ 9:00 am	Nell McGurn by The Family Mary Doherty by Elizabeth Gravel Bride Martin by Dorothy & Claude Carriere Bob Zinkie by Family & Friends		

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
July 1 - 2 - Sunday Collection	\$654.00	\$320.00
July 1 - 2 - Support	200.00	172.00
July 8 - 9 - Sunday Collection	481.00	391.00
Donation		50.00

The Archbishop's Monthly Prayer Intentions – July 2017

"Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who have moved away from faith, that they may discover, through our prayer and our actions bearing witness to the Gospel, the ongoing presence of the Lord in their life and the beauty of Christian living."

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

The Transforming Word of God

God's word has transforming power when read, preached and lived. Unlike human word, which is fragile, God's word is always effective because of who God is (Numbers 23:19). "For God, to speak is the same thing as to do; to promise is the same thing as to fulfill." God's word enables what it says; He speaks the word into existence. When He says "let there be..., there is!" (unknown author). Today's reading points out this important quality of God's word. They also warn us to be patient and not to be disappointed at the absence of immediate results.

In the **first reading**, we hear about the great power of God's word as spoken through the Prophet Isaiah. As the rain and snow water the earth and make seed to sprout and grow, so the word of God accomplishes its purpose. God's word is not an empty word; it is a powerful word which brings about the purposes of God. Just as God's word made the first beginning, so it makes the new beginnings. The return of the exiles mentioned in this prophecy will be an everlasting memorial to the power of God's word. The prophecy of Isaiah here goes beyond material fertility; it also speaks of spiritual fecundity. For God will make the people's lives fruitful as He has done for their land. God's plan for us and through us will not be frustrated. In the **second reading**, St Paul reminds us that just as seeds must fall into the earth and die in order to produce abundant crop, the pain and sufferings God permits in our lives help our redemption. We ought to continue to sow the word of God diligently and suffer for the Lord while waiting for our eternal reward. He urges us to trust God's word and its power to redeem, not just mankind, but also nature, in Christ.

Jesus, as the Son of God, speaks the word of God. This is seen in the authority with which He speaks, unlike the other religious leaders. Jesus commands, He rebukes, He orders. When He speaks, something happens. People who are open to His transforming/creative word are seen to leave His presence changed; something happens to them. In **the Gospel**, we see Jesus speaking a word that is seen to be effective. God is presented as being prodigal, sowing seeds right and left in abundant measure so that we constantly receive the word in our hearts from a merciful and generous sower. But the word of God, that Jesus speaks, depends on the response of the listeners if it is to be truly effective. This word is like a seed that is sown by Jesus, a seed that depends on the condition of the ground if it is to grow and bear fruit. The passage presents four different soil-types to represent four separate responses people give to God's salvific word.

In the first place, there are hearts as hard as the road surface that is constantly trampled upon, who hear the word without understanding it. Their hearts, like the road surface, do not allow the seed of the word to go through. Then, we have the hearts that are fickle, whose initial enthusiasm for the word cannot withstand trial. They are like a stone covered with a thin layer of soil; the word never takes root in them. Like a seed it germinates quickly but will dry up just as quickly. Thirdly, there are those who hear the word but are overcome by worries about the problems of this world, addiction to evil habits and tendencies; they lose the word due to these preoccupations that are like thorns that stifle the seed of the word. Finally, we have the good hearts, who hear the word, understand it and make it their own and produce abundant fruits through persistence. They have open hearts filled with holiness and humility, are open to the Holy Spirit. This last group of hearers is a model for true Christian discipleship. True discipleship enables the preached word of God to become a fruitful thing. It is not just a word.

Brothers and sisters, the questions we need to ask ourselves are: Am I merely hearing God's word without understanding it? Does God's word meet with a hard heart in me? Am I too anxious about money, security, provision for retirement or old age? Is God's word taking root in me? Converting me? Transforming me? Enabling me to sacrifice? And what about the "fruits" that we are being invited to produce: justice and mercy, hospitality for the immigrant and the sick, the dispossessed, the unborn, the single parent, etc.? The parable of the sower challenges us to see how deeply the word of God has taken root in our lives, how central God is to the very fabric of our day-to-day life. It is also important for us to realize that the four types of soil are to be found in greater or lesser manner, in each of us. It is pertinent to understand this and improve the field, that is, our hearts, so that the word of God may produce good fruits.

OUR LADY of VICTORY & ST. MALACHY NEWS

<u>Prayers and Sympathy</u>: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Lawrence Raby, brother of Bill, and Ted Batty, brother of Ethel Pearson. Our sympathy and prayers are with their families and friends during this time of loss.

OLV Fellowship: There will be **NO** fellowship in August. Will start again on Sunday, September 3rd.

Bulletins: During the months of July and August our parish bulletin will be printed every two weeks. The bulletins will be printed: July 29-30, August 12-13 and August 26-27. Back to weekly bulletin issues in September.

Mass Change: There will be **NO** morning mass on Thursday, July 20th as Father Albanus will be away.

<u>Thursday Masses</u>: Note: In the month of August there will be **NO** Thursday morning mass at OLV. Will resume mass on Thursday, September 7th.

<u>Used Stamps:</u> Did you know that one cancelled stamp can help feed a child for a day? Support The Redemptorist Mission Stamp Bursary by bringing your used stamps and placing them in the specially marked boxes on each side of the top of the stairs.

Egg Cartons: Recycle your used egg cartons by placing them in the food basket. These are used by our local Food Bank and also for the Special Education Children at St. Michel School. The children use these for arts and crafts to sell and purchase other items for their needs. Monique will divide these cartons to ensure that both places get your donations.

<u>Our Lady of Knock Shrine</u> - 63rd Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Knock is being held on **Sunday, August 13, 2017**, with Father John Walsh, Montreal, as the celebrant. The program is:

11:00 am Celebration of Holy Eucharist

- 12:30 pm Dinner at Food Booths
- 1:00 pm Rosary Procession to Cemetery
- 2:30 pm Marian Hymns

2:45 pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Blessing of Religious Articles and Healing Service

Information is posted on the bulletin board and brochures are available at the back of the Church.

<u>Our Lady of Knock/St. Malachy Work Night</u> - In preparation for the Pilgrimage, a work night is scheduled for Thursday, August 10th, at 6:30 pm. In case of rain, it will be on Friday, August 11th, at 6:30 pm. Volunteers are most welcome.

COMMUNITY NEWS

<u>Our Lady of Light Cultural Centre Concerts</u> - The following concerts will be held at OLLCC, 6458, Route 315, Mulgrave and Derry. Admission to all concerts is **\$5.00** and can be purchased at door. Free for children aged 12 and under. Come and enjoy an afternoon of music and friendship.

<u>July 16, 2:00 to 3:00 pm</u> - Geezers and Dolls - An ear pleasing selection of everything from self-written songs by Bill Connolly to blues, jazz, songs from Broadway musicals, parlour songs and a taste of opera.

<u>July 23, 2:00 to 3:00 pm</u> - Sticks and Stones Concert with Lisa Marie Serafin and Chris Marris. They have chosen an enjoyable repertoire that spans about seven decades of popular music, from Patsy Cline to The Tragically Hip, and also includes a few original compositions by Serafin.

Blood Donor Clinic: Thursday, August 3 at the Buckingham Bowling King Pin, 210 Sauvé Street. Time: 1:30 pm to 8:00 pm.