

Gatineau (QC) J8Z 3J5 www.diocesegatineau.org

MASSES					
Thursday	Aug. 17 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 10:00 am	NO MASS		
Saturday	Aug. 19 <sup>th</sup>	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	For All The Holy Souls by Ginny Roos		
Sunday	Aug. 20 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 9:00 am	Alma Miller by Isabel & Tom Laframboise Mary Doherty by Bev Belter Margaret Maloney by Claude & Dorothy Carriere Joan Teske by Family & Friends		
Thursday	Aug. 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>OLV</b> @ 10:00 am	NO MASS		
Saturday	Aug. 26 <sup>th</sup>	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	David Murphy (8 <sup>th</sup> ann) by The Murphy Family For All The Holy Souls by Ginny Roos		
Sunday	Aug. 27 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 9:00 am	Bride Martin by Evelyn Robitaille Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Doherty & Family by Regis Lemieux James, Margaret & Tom Dorion by The Estate Buddy Ryan by Friends of the Kitchen		

Telephone

Website

(819) 986-3763

www.stmalachyolv.com

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
July 29 - 30, 2017 - Sunday Collection	\$601.00	\$317.00
Aug. 5 - 6, 2017 - Sunday Collection	570.00	324.00
Aug. 5 – 6, 2017 - Support	246.00	292.00

### Monthly Prayer Intentions of Our Bishop August 2017

"For the artists of our time: that their works, fruit of their talent and passion, help us discover and marvel at the beauty of creation."

**<u>Reflections Sunday, August 13, 2017</u>**: More and more artists are not getting their share of their due copyrights as authors and composers, which would allow them to earn a decent living. I try to do justice to them in purchasing rather than copying their works.

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

#### **God's Presence and Our Fears**

Today's liturgy speaks about God's saving presence, trusting faith and fear; three concepts that are not always completely exclusive. God is always present to His people. There is need for them to trust in Him even in their fears. The first reading narrates the story of Elijah (c.860 BC) who lived in a period characterized by profound political and social changes. Elijah was chosen by God to confront the infidelity of the monarchy during the reign of King Ahab and his wife, Jezebel, the shrewd, ambitious and beautiful daughter of the King of Tyre. Ahab had built pagan temples and palaces to the false prophets under the influence of Jezebel. The prophet, Elijah, raised a loud protest against this cultural colonization of a sort in the Kingdom of Israel. He confronted the prophets of Baal and attracted the anger of the queen who sought to kill him. So he, out of fear, took to his heels and fled into the wilderness.

This is where today's passage started. Elijah reached Mount Horeb (Sinai), the same place Moses had taken shelter about 400 years ago and met God. Here, Elijah had an extraordinary encounter with God. Like in the time of Moses, there was a great storm involving mighty wind, an earthquake and fire. But in this case, God was not present in any of these elements. The storm quietened and God came to Elijah rather, in the sound of a gentle breeze. Elijah expected a spectacular miracle from God to protect and vindicate him, or an appearance of God with great power in thunder and lightning to bolster his faith as He did at the time of Moses (Ex.19:16-19). However, the presence of God was not in the spectacles of thunder, earthquake or fire but in the tiny whisper of sound. Like Elijah, we can fall into the error of limiting our experience of God to certain places and persons and forgetting that He is everywhere. We have to experience God's presence in our lives and listen attentively to everything going around us, because we encounter God in insignificant as well as spectacular events.

The Gospel echoes the same theme of God's presence, but here in the person of Christ, the Son of God. The disciples are in the boat battling against the waves of the sea. All seems lost, Matthew, writing to his Jewish converts, here expresses the Christian belief that Jesus is the Messiah and the Son of God. He is the only one who can walk on the waves of the sea (Job 9:8). Christ is the Master of all the forces that threaten humankind. The Gospel also speaks of Peter's invitation to walk on the water and his fear, his sinking and his 'little' faith. Peter turns his focus away from Christ and he gets the consequence. Matthew is telling us here that the disciple should never fear, as if he were relying solely on his own powers. As long as we focus on Jesus and aware of His saving presence in our lives, there is nothing to fear. But, like Peter, the moment we take our eyes off Him and focus on the forces around us, trying to destabilize us, we are in for serious trouble. We begin to sink.

Neither Elijah nor Peter has the faith to match their zeal, but God supported them in their dangerous tasks. While stressing Peter's fear and sinking, it is important also to look at his leap of faith. Peter is the archetype of all who dare to believe that Jesus is saviour, take their first steps in confidence that Jesus is able to sustain them, and then forget to keep their gaze fixed on Him when they face the storms of temptations. In the moments of crisis, however, they remember to call on God and they experience the total sufficiency of his grace to meet their needs. Despite the 'little faith' Jesus declares Peter as the rock on which he will build His Church. No matter how little or big, the only faith that Jesus expects of His followers is one which concentrates solely on Him. Hence, we can do great things when we simply need our Lord. The Risen Lord is always with us and He will, in different times and moments, stretch out His hands and give us strength. As individuals and communities, we usually get the 'sinking feeling'. Gathered in faith, we have the word of God and the Bread of life and the support of each other to keep us afloat. Happy Sunday!

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

Congratulations: On August 15, Father Albanus will be celebrating his 19th year ordination to the priesthood. Our good wishes are extended to you on this special event.

1<sup>st</sup> Communion: On August 20<sup>th</sup> at the 9:00 am mass we welcome Dany Cadieux, Emma Abouanni, Makayla



Abouanni, Riley Hawken, Spencer Lavigne and Matthew Schmidt who will be receiving the body of Christ for the first time. Also thanks to Alex Schmidt for preparing them for this sacrament.

75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary- We Are Planning a Family Event: The Coordinating Committee is planning a family oriented activity which is scheduled for Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 2 to 6 pm. Corn and hot dogs will be served. Activities will be held both inside and outside the church. While planning is in its early stages, what we can announce is that in the church hall, music will be provided by Phil Casey and François Plouffe and that several children's activities are planned on the arounds.

The Committee is hopeful that parishioners will enthusiastically support this community event and encourage their children and grand-children to attend. Both the Coordinating Committee and the Wardens are committed to make the event fun for all ages. As planning moves forward, more detailed information will be provided.

While we realize that it is early, as soon as you can, please advise the Parish Secretary on the number of family members who plan to participate in this event. We need this information in order to ensure that there is enough food for everyone. Presently, the cutoff date for registration is August 23rd.

<u>Christmas Tea</u>: Although it may seem early, it is time to do some initial planning around the Christmas Tea. The fact is we need a volunteer to come forward as a Convener. The sooner we can name a Convener, the easier it is for those doing crafts to organize. Anyone interested should contact the parish secretary.

## **DEVELOPMENT & PEACE**

In February 2017, the new UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, declared 20 million people to be at risk of death in the next six months in South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, and Nigeria. This particular humanitarian crisis stems from a conjunction of events that include armed conflicts coupled with severe droughts brought about by climate change. Many have fled their homes and land to escape the violence of armed conflict and are continually displaced. These issues make transportation and access to food extremely difficult.

Development and Peace – Caritas Canada is present in the region and working closely with our local partners to respond to this humanitarian crisis threatening the lives of millions of people, by working with the most vulnerable populations. Please give generously: By phone at 1-888-664-3387. By text – using your cell phone, send a text message with the word PEACE to 45678 to donate \$10 to Development and Peace By mail to: 1425 René-Lévesque blvd. W, 3rd Floor, Montreal QC H3G 1T7. For more information about Development and Peace actions in the four vulnerable countries, go to: <u>https://www.devp.org/en/famine-relief-fund</u>

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Cemetery Services:** Masson will be on Sunday August 27 at 10:30 am. St. Gregoire's will be on Sunday, September 10 at 1:30 pm.

**Clothing Requests:** The charitable organization who rents space in the OLV Rectory – Just Equipping – is looking for clothing for men and women. Requirements: washable fleeces like hoodies, jogging pants, gym pants, fall jackets, sweaters, long sleeve shirts, socks and underwear. These can be dropped off at OLV during the secretary's office hours.

**SUITCASES NEEDED:** large lightweight. All donations will be accepted no later than September 13. This will give them time to sort and pack the donations.

## Please bring to church office.

# HISTORY OF OLV

Father Donald Jeffrey, a member of the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette, became our pastor in 1987. His spiritual guidance helped us all to better our Christian lives .

Many will remember Father singing "Were You There When They Crucified My Lord" on Good Friday and the celebration of Holy Saturday, which included many hours of decorating the sanctuary! It was during this time, after many meetings and much discussion, that the first Mardi Gras dance was held in the parish hall. Father Jeffrey arrived dressed as Uncle Sam. Father loved to sing and, on occasion, he sang a song or two with the band at the parish dances.

It was under Father's guidance that OLV celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1992. Many former parishioners returned to celebrate this joyous event. Father Jeffrey remained with us until 1993.