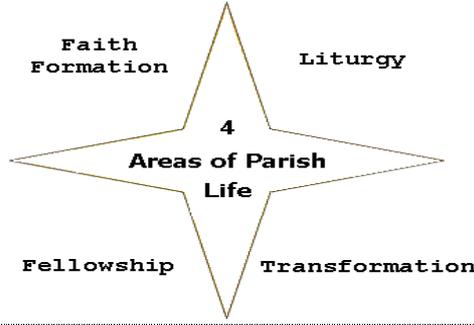




**Our Lady of Victory**  
490 Charles Street  
Gatineau, Québec  
J8L 2K5



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

**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**DECEMBER 2 – 3, 2017**

**Sunday 9:00 AM**

**Celebration of the Eucharist**

**Saturday 7:00 PM**

**Pastor** Father Albanus Ogowuihe  
**Rectory** 490 Charles Street, Gatineau, Québec, J8L 2K5  
**Office Admin.** 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  
**Website** [www.stmalachyolv.com](http://www.stmalachyolv.com)



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**MASSES**

<b>Thursday</b>	Dec. 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>OLV @ 10:00 am</b>	<b>Richard Butler</b> by Regis Lemieux <b>Alma Miller</b> by Family & Friends
<b>Saturday</b>	Dec. 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Augustine Okafor</b> by Mayo Parishioners
<b>Sunday</b>	Dec. 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>OLV @ 9:00 am</b>	<b>James Austin Martin</b> by The Family <b>Evelyn Robitaille</b> by Barbara Weir <b>Mary Elizabeth Laframboise</b> by The Estate <b>Joan Teske</b> by Family & Friends

<b>WEEKLY RECEIPTS</b>	<b>OLV</b>	<b>ST. MALACHY</b>
November 25 - 26, 2017 - Sunday Collection	\$643.00	\$382.00
November 25 - 26, 2017 - Fuel	611.00	207.00

**THE BISHOP'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 2017**

“Let us pray for the older persons in our families and our communities whose experience and wisdom are inspiring models to our society where they contribute, in their own way, to the transmission of faith and the education of new generations”.

## Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

The readings of the four Sundays of Advent call us to be vigilant and ready for the coming of our Lord. They tell us that Jesus has not come just once. He keeps coming. He comes and is present at all the events of our lives, the cheerful or sad ones. Jesus comes and is present in all that happens in our world and in our Church; in those who speak words of love, peace and reconciliation and in those who strive to build a new world. Today's liturgy sets the tone for the theme of being alert, watchful and prepared because Christ's second coming (the end of the world) can occur at any time. In the **first reading**, the Prophet calls God "Father" and "Redeemer". As such, there is no situation that he cannot improve and no one is so enslaved by sin that she/he cannot be freed and redeemed. He, thus, prays for God's active presence so that the Jewish community, returning from Babylonian exile may remain faithful to their God. In the **second reading**, St. Paul presents to us the Corinthian Christians as an example of vigilance, their shortcomings notwithstanding. God is not surprised at or shocked by our mistakes; we only need to open up our hearts to His gifts.

In the **Gospel**, Jesus uses the parable of the servants and gatekeeper of the Master to instruct his followers to be alert and prepared so as not to be afraid of the end or the Second coming of Christ and judgement. They are expected to be vigilant because the Master is sure to return and the time of His return is uncertain. We should not be so foolish as to forget God and become immersed in worldly matters. "We are so future-oriented that we forget the present entirely. We spend too much time trying to protect ourselves against future misfortunes. We save for a rainy day, to get married, to buy a home, to send the children to college, to return in comfort and to protect ourselves against future misfortunes. But we need to be more spiritually wakeful and prepared for our eternal life because we can die any day and that is the end of the world for us." (Fr Tony Kadavil).

The Master of the house represents Jesus. While leaving this world, He entrusted His disciples with the many tasks in His house (the community). Every Christian is expected to exercise a ministry in the service of his neighbours according to his/her ability. The doorkeeper who is expected to be more vigilant than all represents those in the Christian communities who bear responsibility for more important services. These include the bishops, priests and community leaders/ministers who are expected more than anybody else to lead an irreproachable life. They must through their thoughts, words and actions, keep their weaker brothers and sisters awake when they are being tempted to adjust themselves to the views and ways of the world. On this first Sunday of Advent, may we take the right first steps as we prepare to celebrate the fond memory of Christ's first coming 2000 years ago during this coming Christmas. Amen. Happy Sunday!

## 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 home.

## OUR LADY of VICTORY & ST. MALACHY NEWS

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Cathleen Maloney who died in Ireland. She is the mother of Maureen Cook. Our prayers and sympathy are with her family and friends at this great time of loss.

**Penitential Service:** *Will be held on Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at OLV at 7:00 pm.*

**St. Malachy – Election of Wardens:** Each year two Church wardens are to be elected for a term of three years and can remain in office for two consecutive terms. At the present time we have wardens who have served their two terms and because no one came forward, they agreed to remain as wardens until replacements could be found. If you or someone you know, with his/her approval, would like to become a warden and help the Parish in that capacity, please submit the name to a member of the Fabrique or call the office at **819-986-3763 by December 8<sup>th</sup>**. If an election is necessary it will be held on **December 16<sup>th</sup>** after our Eucharistic celebration. Thank you.

### **OLV - Mark These Dates on Your Calendar:**

A **card party** will be held on April 10<sup>th</sup> in the church hall. A light lunch will be served. Card playing parishioners are encouraged to sign up and participate.

The **Spring Supper & Balloon Auction** will be held on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. The menu will include spaghetti and deserts. Tickets for the event will be \$15.

A **Family Gathering and Musical Afternoon** is planned for Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. In addition, two musical guests, corn on the cob and hot dogs on the BBQ will be served. Tickets to the event will be \$10.

**Volunteer Appreciation and 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** The objective is to both close out the church's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration and at the same time honor our volunteers. Both groups will be meeting to finalize the event scheduled for January 21<sup>st</sup> following the mass.

## Christmas Mass Schedule for OLV & St. Malachy

**Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Mass at 7pm at St. Malachy

**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>:** *Christmas Eve*

No morning mass at OLV

Mass at 7 pm at OLV

Mass at 9 pm at St. Malachy

**Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>:** *Christmas Day:* Mass at 9 am at OLV

*Father Bill will be saying Christmas Eve masses at OLV & St. Malachy, as well as Christmas morning mass at OLV*

**Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup>:** Mass at 7:00 pm at St. Malachy

**Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>:** Mass at 9:00 am at OLV

**Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>:** Mass at 9:00 am at OLV

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**CLSC Flu Shot Clinics:** Will be held at the Community Centre dates and times: **December 7, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.**

**Heart & Soul Christmas Concert:** Will be held at OLV on Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 pm. Advance Tickets Prices: \$10.00 per person or 2 for \$15.00. Cost at door - \$10.00.