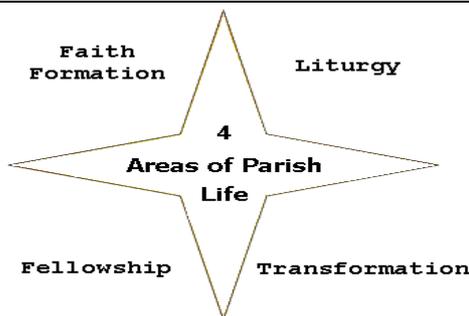




**Our Lady of Victory**  
490 Charles Street  
Gatineau, Québec  
J8L 2K5



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

**HOLY FAMILY OF  
JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**

**DECEMBER 30 - 31, 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>New Year's Day</b>	Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>	OLV @ 9:00 am	<b>All Parishioners of OLV &amp; St. Malachy</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	Jan. 6 <sup>th</sup>	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	<b>Jack Roos</b> by The Family
<b>Sunday</b>	Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 9:00 am	<b>Mary Doherty</b> by Family & Friends <b>Kelly, Martin &amp; Weir Families</b> by The Family <b>Evelyn Robitaille</b> by OLV Choir <b>Philipp Lotz (24<sup>th</sup> ann) &amp; Family</b> by Marianne Lotz

<b>WEEKLY RECEIPTS</b>	<b>OLV</b>	<b>ST. MALACHY</b>
December 24, 2017- Sunday Collection	\$308.00	
December 24, 2017 - Fuel	267.00	
December 24, 2017 - Christmas Eve	115.00	
December 25, 2017 - Christmas Day	1855.00	

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

On this last Sunday of the year, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. We offer all the members of our own families on the altar for God's blessing. We pray for God's blessings and protection as we step into yet another year; we look with gratitude to our families and to the family of believers. The first reading from the Book of Sirach has been seen as a commentary on the fourth commandment that says "*Honour your father and your mother.*" Ben Sirach has many good things to say about living properly according to the Torah. A good part of his book is used to describe family life, the duties of husband and wife and the obligations of children towards parents and vice versa. Sirach reminds children of their duty to honour their parents - even when it becomes difficult. He also mentions the five-fold reward which God promises to those who honour their father and mother. The first reward is "riches," and the second, long life: "*Whoever reveres his father will live a long life.*" Forgiveness of sins and God's prompt answer to prayers are the fourth and fifth rewards. He reminds children that God blesses them if they obey, revere and show compassion to their father (nay, parents). God likes the children's love for their parents. There may however be in this first reading, the impression that it is all about the obligations of children towards their parents; that the parents are free to behave

as they like. No, the parents are supposed to behave in a way that merits them the obedience and respect of the children.

St. Paul, in his letter to the Colossians, advises us that we should put on love and remain thankful in our relationships with one another. He uses the analogy of dress in the regard. A dress is an important item in our lives; it shows our taste and sentiments, and our emotions. Hence, Paul says we should put on a beautiful dress so that all will be pleased. His advice is part of the "Household Code" – the rules for members of the Christian family. Though the details date to Paul's time, the underlying message of being careful with one another – attentive, gentle, and merciful – is timeless. Paul teaches that children should learn and practice noble qualities -- compassion, kindness, forgiveness and sharing --- in the warmth of the family. Over all these, we must put on love. Love is not a vague sentiment or feeling of compassion but a constant attitude of service towards our brother and sister, a readiness to suffer for him or her. In a truly holy family, all members are respected, cherished, nurtured and supported, united through the bond of love. Today's Gospel describes how Joseph presented Mary and the Child Jesus in the Temple for the ritual of the mother's purification and the Child's "presentation." St. Luke shows how the Holy Family of Nazareth submitted them to the will of the Father expressed in the Scriptures. It spanned all through the life of Jesus: faithful obedience to the Father's will.

While parents should rightly provide for their children proper education, good job and high social standing, they have also a very important task of consecrating them to the Lord from the start of their lives as Mary and Joseph did Jesus. They should bring them up to lead a good and honest Christian life, consistent with the teachings of the Gospel. We know children learn more with their eyes than with ears. It is more about what they see us do than what they hear us say. Children learn to pray if they see their parents pray. It is also true of other things and activities. Finally, if parents practice love, forgiveness and generosity, children will learn to do likewise. Simeon and Anna, in the Gospel, are a model for the parents and old people of our times. Simeon does not engage in lamenting the years of his youth but in conversation with God and expresses his joyful optimism for his people. Anna, on the other hand, has no time for gossiping or backbiting. She knows that every day of her life is precious and must be used to serve the members of the community at her age. She gives her life to praying in the temple.

Brothers and sisters, we need to learn lessons from the Holy Family: The Church encourages us to look to the Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph for inspiration, example and encouragement. They were a model family in which both parents worked hard, helped each other, understood and accepted each other, and took good care of their Child so that He might grow up not only in human knowledge but also as a Child of God. We need to make the family a confessional rather than a courtroom. A senior Judge of the Supreme Court congratulated the bride and groom in a marriage with a pertinent piece of advice: "See that you never convert your family into a courtroom; instead let it be a confessional. If the husband and wife start arguing like attorneys in an attempt to justify their behavior, their family becomes a court of law and nobody wins. On the other hand, if the husband and the wife--as in a confessional-- are ready to admit their faults and try to correct them, the family becomes a Heavenly one." Every Holy Mass in which we participate is our presentation. Although we were officially presented to God on the day of our Baptism, we present ourselves and our dear ones on the altar before God our Father through our Savior Jesus Christ at every Holy Mass. Hence, we need to live our daily lives with the awareness both that we are dedicated people consecrated to God and that we are obliged to lead holy lives (Tony Kadavil). **Happy New Year!**

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

**Prayers and Sympathy:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Nora Somers whose service was at St. Malachy on Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup>. Our prayers and sympathy are with her family and friends at this great time of loss.

**OLV Sunday Collection Envelopes:** Our temporary envelopes are on the table at the back of the church. New numbers have been assigned so please take these for now.

**For Your Information:** Just a reminder that Our Lady of Victory parish is a charitable organization that is recognized by Revenue Canada and this enables the parish to provide tax receipts for all envelope holders. Recently, Revenue Canada has increased the tax credit for charitable donations. Therefore, your tax credits on a charitable donation to the parish under the present regulations could be as much as 50% of your charitable donations.

**Volunteer Appreciation & 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary close up:** Will be held on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> in the Church Hall after mass. All are welcome. To ensure enough food is available please call the office **no later than Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup> before noon to register.**

**Office hours for the holidays:**

Wednesday - Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>, & Thursday - Jan 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 9:00-11:00 am & from 1:00-3:00 pm.

**OLV - Mark These Dates on Your Calendar for 2018:** More information to follow later.

April 10<sup>th</sup> - **Card Party** in church hall      May 18<sup>th</sup> - **Spring Supper & Balloon Auction**  
June 2<sup>nd</sup> - **Garage Sale** in church hall      Sept 15<sup>th</sup> – **Family Gathering & Musical Afternoon**

**Sacramental Preparation:** Anyone wishing to enrol children or youth in sacramental preparation (**Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation**), please notify the Parish Administrator at 819-986-3763. ***You will be notified of an introductory meeting at a later date. Linda.***

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Just Equipping Team:** Dear Friends: Another year has passed and we are again filled with appreciation for all that has transpired.

We are grateful for the part you have played in allowing us to continue our mission to “equip and train prison chaplains and to promote Restorative Justice’ in Rwanda, DRCongo (Goma) and Burundi.

Our local teams were able to maintain a pastoral presence in 17 prisons, literacy and counselling, feeding and clothing programs to elderly and palliative prisoners, sewing workshops with vulnerable young women victims (Gender-based Violence), and continuing Restorative Justice work with Genocide survivors and perpetrators.

Thank you for your material support, your prayers and your welcome! Every blessing to you in return.

***Pierre Allard, President, Just.Equipping.***