



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

**FIRST SUNDAY  
IN LENT**

**FEBRUARY 17 - 18, 2018**

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

**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  
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**MASSES**

<b>Thursday</b>	Feb. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	OLV @ 10:00 am	<b>James, Margaret &amp; Tom Dorion</b> by The Estate <b>Evelyn Robitaille</b> by Family & Friends
<b>Saturday</b>	Feb. 24 <sup>th</sup>	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	<b>Benjamin French</b> by The Family
<b>Sunday</b>	Feb. 18 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 9:00 am	<b>Nora Somers</b> by Nicole Charbonneau <b>Mr. &amp; Mrs. John Weatherdon</b> by Diane Delcourt & Family <b>Alma Miller</b> by Family & Friends <b>Edward &amp; Doris Lemieux</b> by Regis Lemieux <b>Mass of Thanksgiving</b> by a Parishioner

**WEEKLY RECEIPTS**

**OLV**

**ST. MALACHY**

Feb. 10 - 11, 2018 - Sunday Collection

\$373.00

\$261.00

**Bishop's Prayer Intention for February 2018**

**Action I may take:** What does it mean to me to make connections between laypersons and consecrated persons?  
What is my personal path of connection?

**Defibrillator Training OLV:**

A Defibrillator was recently installed in the church basement on the wall between both bathrooms. The Defibrillator was purchased in recognition of a generous donation from the Estate of Buddy Ryan. While it is prudent to have such a medical device in the church, it is essential that we have individuals trained on how to use it. Therefore, the Parish is offering free training on the use of the equipment. Volunteers may register with the Office Administrator at 819-986-3763.

**Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy**  
**Lent: God Renews All**

Today is the first Sunday of Lent. During Lent we prepare for the celebration of Jesus' death and resurrection. This time we are called to reorder our priorities and change our values, ideals and ambitions through fasting, prayer and self-control. Today's readings refer to Baptism directly or indirectly - Baptism by which we share the death and resurrection of Jesus. The **first reading** tells the story of the Fall and how the merciful God selected Noah and his family to renew the Covenant. The original covenant was broken through the Fall. The flood is, however, not a disaster caused by God; it is only the symbol of the terrible devastation brought about by the sins of people. God never approves of evil, but when He interferes, it is always to repair, reconstruct, to renew. God says, "*I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.*" To be noted is that this promise of God was unconditional, no strings attached. Why? God's love is absolutely gratuitous. He does not wait for us to be good before being generous to us. Though He clearly sees that people are sinners, He loves them just the same; and this love transforms them into new creatures. Noah's rescue from the flood symbolizes how we are saved through the water of Baptism which cleanses us of sin and makes us one with Christ.

The Psalm (25) has a penitential tone (in line with Lenten time). The Psalm acknowledges human insufficiency and our radical dependence upon God, His mercy and forgiveness. The **second reading** from First Peter shows how Noah's episode prefigured Baptism. As Noah and his family were saved from the waters of the flood, we are saved through the waters of Baptism. Baptism is an outward sign of the New Covenant that God made with His people. It makes us adopted children of God, heirs of heaven and temples of the Holy Spirit. Through the waters of Baptism in which we die to sin, we become incorporated into the Church, the Body of Christ, and the living Christian community. The **Gospel** presents to us the temptation of Jesus. Mark describes the main temptation Jesus faced during His public life, namely, the temptation to become a political messiah of power and fame (according to the Jewish expectation), to use His Divine power for personal comfort and to avoid suffering and death. The temptations Jesus faced and defeated help us to understand the conflicts that were in Jesus' own life and which will be found in ours too. Instead of yielding to the temptations, Jesus said a firm "Yes" to His Father's plan, even when it came to giving over His life. He faced and defeated the tempter by His forty days of prayer and penance in the desert immediately after His baptism. The Gospel also tells us how Jesus started preaching his messianic mission, "*The time is fulfilled. The kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the Good News.*"

Brothers and sisters, like Jesus, we have to conquer our temptations through prayer, penance and the timely use of the word of God. This is even more pertinent during this Lenten period. Lent should be a time for personal reflection on where we stand as Christians in accepting the Gospel challenges in thought, word and deed. It is also a time to assess our relationships with our family, friends, working colleagues and other people we come in contact with, especially those of our parish. We should examine whether we are able to give any positive contribution to other people's lives and to eradicate the abuses which are part of our society. Lent reminds us that we have to take up the fight each day against the evil within us and around us, and never give up. Jesus has given the assurance that the Holy Spirit is with us, empowering us so that final victory will be ours through Jesus Christ. **Happy Sunday!**

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

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

**St. Malachy - We are a small Parish with a "big heart" - not only on Valentines day.** The Wardens wish to thank all who supported the Valentines Luncheon on Sunday which realized a profit of \$1,129.00. With a crowd of 85+ festive attendees, there was lots of laughter and stories being told. Everyone enjoyed a winter outing to visit with friends and neighbors while enjoying a delicious meal. Thank you to Ranch à Charley for the meal. And a big thank you also for the generous donations from those who could not attend but wanted to show their support. The Parish thanks you all "from our hearts".

**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**

**Still collecting:** Used stamps, egg cartons and food for our local food bank.

**Garage Sale:** Are you downsizing and looking for a place to drop off your items? The office is open to receive your donations (during office hours or Sunday before/after mass) for our sale on Saturday June 2<sup>nd</sup>. **NO CLOTHING, SHOES or LARGE ITEMS and FURNITURE.** Paperback books, dishes, glasses and other small items will be accepted. Call Monique to arrange a drop off time.

## Community News

### Celebrate St. Patrick with The Lyon Street Celtic Band

St. Andrews United Church is pleased to bring back, by popular demand, the Lyon Street Celtic Band. The concert will be held on **Saturday March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.** Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door – free for children 12 and under. Refreshments will be served - also, a chance to win a door prize. For tickets call Donna at 819-986-9359 or e-mail at: [st.andrews.buckingham@gmail.com](mailto:st.andrews.buckingham@gmail.com). Money raised from this concert will benefit St. Andrew's roof repairs.



### **Share Lent in the name of peace**

For this year's Share Lent, **Development and Peace** is encouraging us to come together for peace!

You will find inspiring testimonials in the Mini-magazine inserted with your bulletin today. During this first week, our search for peace takes us to Cambodia to meet ICSO, a **Development and Peace** partner that works with minority Indigenous communities to help them have their rights recognized by the government, defend their land against corporate interests, and develop sustainable economic activities that enable them to live with dignity.