



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

**FOURTH SUNDAY  
OF LENT**

**MARCH 10 – 11, 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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WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
Mar 3 - 4, 2018 - Sunday	\$500.00	\$215.00
Mar 3 - 4, 2018 - Support	262.00	209.00

**MASSES**

<b>Thursday</b>	Mar. 15 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 10:00 am	<b>James, Margaret &amp; Tom Dorion</b> by The Estate
<b>Saturday</b>	Mar. 17 <sup>th</sup>	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	<b>Agathe Somers</b> by Wilbert & Family
<b>Sunday</b>	Mar. 18 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 9:00 am	<b>Mary Doherty</b> by Family & Friends <b>Evelyn Robitaille</b> by Maureen Dunning <b>Harvey Kelly</b> by Monique & Ken Simpson <b>Harold, Helen &amp; Sean Cullen</b> by Maureen & Norbert <b>Deceased Members of the Raymond, Roy &amp; Rowe Families</b> by Val & Lewis

**EASTER MASS SCHEDULE**

Tuesday	Mar. 20 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 7:00 pm	Penitential Service
Wednesday	Mar. 28 <sup>th</sup>	St. Joseph @ 7:00 pm	Chrism Mass
Holy Thursday	Mar. 29 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 10:00 am	NO MASS
Holy Thursday	Mar. 29 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 7:00 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday	Mar. 30 <sup>th</sup>	St. Aloysius @ 2:30 pm	Stations of the Cross and Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Good Friday	Mar. 30 <sup>th</sup>	OLV @ 3:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Holy Saturday	Mar. 31 <sup>st</sup>	OLV @ 8:00 pm	Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday	Apr. 1 <sup>st</sup>	OLV @ 9:00 am	Celebration of the Eucharist
Easter Sunday	Apr. 1 <sup>st</sup>	St. Malachy @ 11:00 am	Celebration of the Eucharist

## **Bishop's Monthly Prayer Intentions for March**

"Let us pray for those women who, inspired by the Gospel in their efforts to color the social, cultural and religious life of their neighborhood, are committed to promote human dignity."

**Actions I may take:** I introduce a single mother Community group to help her find support, reassurance and an appropriate resource

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

### **God So Loved the World**

Fourth Sunday of Lent is referred to as **Laetare** (Rejoice) Sunday taken from the first words of today's liturgy introit. It is in the middle of the Lenten period and as in Advent, this Sunday reminds us of the Event we look forward to at the end of the penitential season. The Church celebrates today with a sentiment of joy in anticipation of the Resurrection. The readings teach us that our salvation is the free gift of a merciful God given to us in Jesus, His Son. They emphasize God's mercy and compassion and remind us of the great love, kindness and grace extended to us in Christ. The **first reading** speaks about the compassion and patience of God. This reading from 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles contains the lament about the chosen people. It shows how the infidelities of the people caused them to lose the Temple and their homeland, and how God arranged, through the Persian King, to return them to their homeland and to help them rebuild His Temple there. God allowed Cyrus the Great, a pagan conqueror, to become instrument of His mercy and salvation for His Chosen People who were exiled in Babylon. Thus, the history of love between God and human beings never ends in condemnation. Like the unfaithful people of Israel in this reading, as soon as people leave God, they find themselves in trouble. But there is no prison or dark place that cannot be reached by God. No chains can resist the strength of His all-powerful love.

The **second reading** echoes the same theme as the first reading. Paul's letter to the Ephesians reminds us to focus on the mystery of salvation as a gift to sinners. Although we don't deserve anything from God on our own merits, God chose to love, save and give life to us because of His great mercy and love. Salvation is not given to people because of their merits; it is a gratuitous gift from the Father. All our goodness, such as it may be, is His goodness shining through us. Though we are saved 'through faith', this faith itself is the gift of God. Today's Gospel has a parallel theme with more emphasis: Jesus, the Son of God, became the agent of God's salvation. It recalls a dramatic event that took place during the crossing of the desert at the time of the Exodus (Num.21:4-9). Nichodemus learns that, like Moses' bronze serpent, Jesus too must be 'lifted up', and that the act of His being 'lifted up' will also bring about salvation. The 'lifting up' here was a contemporary euphemism for 'being crucified' (see also Jn.8:28; 12:32-34). The reference in this Gospel pericope specifically foreshadows the crucifixion of Jesus who carried with Him the burden of the sins of the world. When humans turn their thoughts to the crucified Savior and believe in Him, they too will find eternal life.

The rabbis (referring to the Exodus event) used to teach that the Jews were healed, not because they looked up at the serpent, but because they raised their hearts to God. The Savior was the Lord, not the bronze serpent (Wis. 16:7). Jesus makes reference to this passage in the **Gospel** and states that it is the symbol of what is to happen to Him. He will also be lifted up on the cross, and all who will look up at Him will be saved. Thus, just as the cross was the way to glory for Jesus, so it is for us. It is an unchangeable law of human life, however, that without the cross, there is no crown. To look at Jesus 'lifted up' here therefore, means to 'believe in Him', that is, to accept in faith the message that addresses to all of us from the cross. "*God so loved the world....*" is the summary of the Gospel message of salvation through Jesus Christ. It is the very essence of the Gospel. It tells us that God takes the initiative in all salvation because of His love for humanity. St Augustine puts it even more emphatically that 'God loves each one of us as if there were only one of us to love.' The love of God is universal. His motive is love and His objective is salvation. Those who actually receive eternal life must believe in the Son and walk according to His teaching. That means walking in the Light. Opposing Christ's teaching means opposing Christ Himself, hence walking in darkness. There are many dark corners in our world. Our Lord wants us to stop hiding our sin in the dark and demands that we expose every dark corner to His Light of life. His Light will 'enlighten' us and clean our dirt (sin) away. Lent is the acceptable time, the time of salvation! **Happy Sunday!**



### **A school of community leaders in Peru**

For the fourth week of Lent, let's go to Peru and discover one of **Development and Peace's** partners, the Bartolomé de Las Casas Institute! It runs the Hugo Echegaray leadership school, where students strengthen their capacity for dialogue, consensus, participation, and consultation in order to exercise ethical and responsible civic leadership in their communities.

Next Sunday is Solidarity Sunday. If you have regular parish envelopes, you will find a **Development and Peace** one for the Share Lent campaign - continue to make cheques payable to the parish or include your cash donation. If you do not have a parish envelope and you wish to make a donation to **Development and Peace**, please use the special **Development and Peace** collection envelope included with today's bulletin. Make cheques out to the parish or include your cash donation and the Treasurer will forward all monies to **Development and Peace** at the end of the campaign. All tax receipts will be issued by the parish Treasurers. Please be generous!

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

**Chrism Mass:** Archbishop Paul-André Durocher is pleased to invite **all parishioners** to gather at this mass during which the Oils for the Catechumens and the Oil of the Sick will be blessed and the Holy Chrism consecrated. Date: **Holy Wednesday, March 28 at 7:00 pm.** at Saint-Joseph Cathedral 245 Saint-Joseph Boulevard, Gatineau. Free parking available behind the church and on the streets nearby.

**Good Friday Collection:** Good Friday, March 30, there will be a Pontifical collection for the Holy Land in support of the Christian communities, the work of the Holy Land, the upkeep of the Holy Sites and the formation of future priests. Let us give generously and show solidarity to respond to the needs of the Church in the land of Jesus. Collection envelopes for OLV and St. Malachy can be left with the Easter collections. **Thank you.**

**Cereal Bars at OLV:** Basket will be out for your generous offers next Sunday.

**Bread Bags:** The St. Michel's school is looking for donations of bread plastic bags for their students. They appreciate the continued donations of egg cartons. A box will be available at the entrance of OLV to accept your donations. (Thanks Monique).

**Card Games & Light Lunch:** Reserve your table before APRIL 3 by contacting: Nancy Lanthier at [nancylanthier@magma.ca](mailto:nancylanthier@magma.ca) or 819-986-8343. Date: April 10 with lunch at 12:30 pm and games between 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Cost: \$60.00 for a table of FOUR. DOOR PRIZES !!!!!

### **Community News**

**St. Andrew's Easter Pancake Breakfast:** **April 1 (Easter Sunday) from 8 – 10 am.** \$10.00 for Adults and \$5.00 for children under 12. **Tickets available from Greg.**