

MASSES				
Saturday	Sept 8th	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	Ann Anderson by A Friend	
Sunday	Sept 9th	OLV @ 9:00 am	Mary Doherty by Family & Friends Beatrice Bonin by Deborah Dorey Landry Roberta Farnand by Barb & Don Maine Paul Forcier by Family & Friends	

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
Aug 12 - Sunday Collection		\$190.00
Aug 18-19 - Sunday Collection	\$596.00	262.00
Aug 25-26 - Sunday Collection	465.00	305.00
Aug 25-26 - Fuel Collection	430.00	212.00

# Monthly Prayer Intentions of Our Bishop September, 2018

"Let us pray, that our Diocesan Christian community demonstrate unity in love, according to Our Lord's will; that we achieve more and more areas of alliance between God, us and the world, and that in our mist occur many acts of mutual assistance, solidarity and sharing."

**Social Reflection**: September is a time to resume our pastoral activities in our respective areas. The Office de la Catéchèse du Québec (O.C.Q.) provides its instructional material to emphasize the 'Catechesis Sunday', under the theme Appelés par Amour: Le rêve de Dieu pour nous (Called to love. God's dream for us).<sup>1</sup> Our life is not always easy. Fortunately, we have dreams... all kinds of dreams: those we have while sleeping at night, those which are a source of hope, of going ahead in life such as dreams of possession: a car, a house, a lottery win; dreams of success, of power, of prestige; dreams of happiness, of peace, of harmony. What kind of dreams do we sustain? Do they contribute to our world's well-being? <sup>1</sup> Catechetical Sunday 2018 of the O.C.Q.

<u>An Answer for our Faith:</u> May God have dreams for humankind? The Old Testament talks about the dream of freedom that God had for his people and that Moses realized in liberating his people from Egypt. The New Testament tells us that Jesus came to fulfil God's commitment, and that it is now on us to go on achieving God's love dream for us. What a responsibility! What a privilege! What could be our participation and our Christian communities' contribution? The Holy and Loving God, who always takes care of our imperfect but beautiful world, calls us to keep His children united in His love and sustained by their highest dreams. Do we have such a dream for our Christian communities? The Diocesan team will present us a synodal proceeding in which we will be invited to take a perceptive look on our realities and doing.

<u>Question I ask myself</u>: Our time is a time of the digital, from social networks to 'smart' phones; how do we use these tools? Can they foster our human fulfilment or be an obstruction to love? In this period where people are back to school or to work, I inquire about the benefits and dangers of their use.

## FATHER ALBANUS REFLECTIONS on the SUNDAY LITURGY

### True Religion

Today's readings speak to us about true religion. True religion is not simply a scrupulous, external observance of rules, laws, traditions and rituals. It is rather a loving, obedient relationship with God expressed in obeying His commandments, worshipping Him, recognizing His presence in other human beings and rendering them loving and humble service. Prayers, rituals, sacraments and religious practices only help us to practice this true religion in our daily lives. The **first reading** is from the Book of Deuteronomy, written in Babylon, during the dramatic period of captivity and exile of Israel. This reading explains that religion is a covenant relationship with a caring, providing, and protecting God, fostered by keeping His commandments given through Moses. God gave Israel the Law so that the Israelites might keep their covenant with Yahweh and thank Him for His love and fidelity to His chosen people. The Law was also intended to keep them a united, holy and intelligent nation, proud of their powerful, protective, single God. In the **second reading** St. James continues the echo of true religion. True religion for him consists in keeping the word of God and doing His will by helping the needy, the poor and the weak in the community.

Christians are urged by James to be doers of the word and not merely listeners. Salvation does not result from just listening to the message. In order to bear fruit, the Word has to be humbly welcomed. If our hearts are not ready to convert and to be transformed, then the word of God is like "a seed falling on a rock;" it dies without bearing any fruit. "If listening does not provide a change of life, it is useless; it is like looking at one's face in the mirror and then going away without washing away the dirt you noticed." (Armellini, F Vol.B p,269). The word of God is really like a mirror that reflects our lives and urges us to judge whether they conform or not with the Law of God. The **Gospel** describes true religion as serving God and all His children with a pure and holy heart. Jesus accuses the spiritual leaders of Israel for deforming the law of God, contrary to the instruction in the first reading. In the 5<sup>th</sup> Century B.C., they started adding oral traditions as interpretations and practical applications of the Mosaic Law. They (Scribes and Pharisees) observed them and insisted that all the Jews should do the same. They had reduced religion to mere lipservice. The word of God was muted as tradition gained the upper-hand.

Jesus, however, teaches that human doctrines should not be taught as dogmas of faith; that sincerity of heart, internal dispositions, purity and holiness are more important than mere external, ritual observances. He admonishes all to keep their heart holy as it is the source of sins, vices and evil habits. The observance of traditions and of washing rituals does not correct the internal motivations and inclinations that really defile people. External piety without internal holiness is hypocrisy. It is more important to be faithful to the spirit of God than to traditions of human origin. Put in another way: it is more important to live by the spirit of the law than by its letter. Jesus attacks the Scribes and Pharisees over their obsession with the strict observance of the ritual acts of purity. He rather points out to the corruption of the heart. It is from within, that is, from a person's heart that all kinds of evils emerge. Purifying the heart, emptying it of all obnoxious venom rather than purifying the hands, is what matters more. It is not what a person eats, but what is eating him/her from within, that matters most. It is not the food for the stomach which is important but the food for the mind. It is good to realize the effect on us of what we consume mentally. Our mental diet can produce within us either, virtuous or evil thoughts, and desires which lead to good or bad actions. What do we consume mentally and emotionally? **Happy Sunday!** 

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

<u>Prayers and Sympathy</u>: Let us pray for the repose of the soul of Hazel Catherine Poirier, who was buried in Mayo on August 21. Our sympathy and prayers are with her family and friends during this time of loss.

**New Vicar-General:** We are pleased to inform you that *Father Rodhain Kasuba-Malu* will be the new Vicar-General in our diocese, as of **September 1st**. He will succeed *Father Philippe Gendron* who was in office for more than fifteen years. On behalf of the Archbishop and diocesan team, we would like to welcome him and wish him success in his new ministry.

**<u>Office Hours</u>**: Please note that on Monday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be **NO** office hours. Office will be opened on Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Kitchen Hall Door: Just be advised that the lock had to be replaced on this door. If you need entry please call Monique. Bring in the old and receive the new!

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<u>OLV Family and Friends Day:</u> The second annual OLV Family and Friends Day will be held on **Saturday, September 8**<sup>th</sup> in the church hall. The objective of the event is to bring together both our parish community and friends for an afternoon of fellowship and music. It is important to note that attendance is not limited to OLV parishioners, so invite your friends. As was the case last year, hot dogs and corn on the cob will be served. Festivities will commence at **1:00 pm and will run to 4:00 pm**.

#### So far, the lineup of artists includes Phil Casey and his Musical Friends including Ray Hotte, Gilbert French, Linus Weatherdon and Pat Cullen also Donna Murphy and Peter Forcier, Jamey Lawlis and Guy Charbonneau.

**Tickets for the event will be \$5.00**, which will cover the cost of the event. There will be no charge for children 12 and under. *Tickets will go on sale on August 19<sup>th</sup> before mass and will also be available at the door on September 8<sup>th</sup>* 

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

<u>Ceremony at Cemetery:</u> All are invited to St. Gregoire's Cemetery on Sunday, September 9 at 1:30 p.m. for the celebration to honor our departed loved ones. <u>Bring your own chairs</u>.

<u>Friendship Club:</u> Starting the year on September 5, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. at The Knights of Columbus Hall. Afternoon of: meeting friends, playing bingo, enjoying coffee and cookies. Contact Shirley Hotte at 819-617-0523 if more information is required.

<u>Our Lady of Light Cultural Centre</u>: Next event is their "Octoberfest / fund raiser" to be held Sunday September 16, 2018 (11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) featuring *Jason Roos and Gretchen Visser*. Octoberfest style lunch will be served from 11:00 a.m. at a reasonable price. Concert starts at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for the concert and available by calling Peter Cameron 819 986-7828, or any committee member or at the door. All are welcomed.