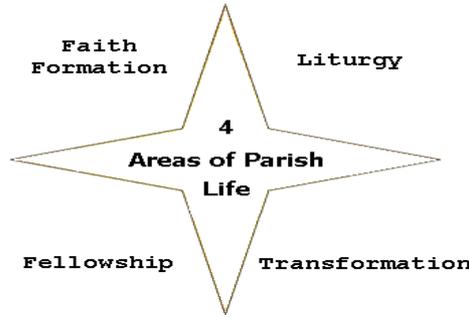




Our Lady of Victory
490 Charles Street
Gatineau, Québec
J8L 2K5



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

**1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 1-2, 2018**

Sunday 9:00 AM

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday 7:00 PM

Pastor Father Albanus Ogowuihe
Rectory 490 Charles Street, Gatineau, Québec, J8L 2K5
Secretary Monique Simpson
Email 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



180, boul. Mont-Bleu
Gatineau (QC) J8Z 3J5
www.diocesegatineau.org

MASSES

Tuesday	Dec. 4 th	OLV @ 11:00 am	Funeral Mass for Irene Cosgrove
Thursday	Dec. 6 th	OLV @ 10:00 am	James, Margaret & Tom Dorion by The Estate
Saturday	Dec. 8 th	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	Hazel & Roland Poirier by The Family
Sunday	Dec. 9 th	OLV @ 9:00 am	James Austin Martin by Barbara & Family Larry Cameron by Monique & Ken Simpson Linda Allen by Nicole Charbonneau Gorman & Lemieux Families by John Gorman

WEEKLY RECEIPTS

OLV

ST. MALACHY

Nov. 24 - 25 - Sunday Collection	\$531.00	\$254.00
Nov. 24 - 25 - Fuel	254.00	172.00



This year, the picture chosen for the **Development and Peace Fall Campaign** is of a young Rohingya refugee living in the Kutupalong refugee camp in the district of Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh. With a population of around 610,000 people, it is the largest refugee camp in the world.

Every minute, 31 people are forced to flee their homes. Inserted with today's bulletin is a pamphlet full of information about refugees. Meet five specific families and learn about their experiences.

For more detailed information on the **Development and Peace** Fall Campaign, the website at:

<https://www.devp.org/n/education/fall2018/materials>

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

Ready for Advent!

Today, we begin annual pilgrimage through the events of our history of salvation. We usually start with Advent, the preparation for the birthday celebration of Jesus and ending with the reflection on His glorious "second coming" as judge at the end of the world. Advent refers to the coming of our God in the world, in Jesus Christ. It is a time Christians set aside to prepare for this coming. We see in our churches the traditional signs of Advent: violet vestments and hangings, dried flowers on the altar and Advent wreath. These signs remind us that we have to prepare for the rebirth of Jesus in our hearts and lives, enabling Him to radiate His love, mercy, compassion and forgiveness around us. Today's readings, as well as, all the readings of Advent invite us to be vigilant, to keep our eyes wide open in order to discover and prepare the ways that Jesus has chosen to come and free us from the evil in which we seek happiness, while it only causes a lot of sorrow. In the **first reading**, the prophet Jeremiah speaks of the coming of the ideal descendant of King David who will bring security and peace and justice to God's people. He assures us of the fidelity of the Lord in fulfilling His promises. Thus, we need not be afraid in spite of the frightening events and moral degradation all round.

In the **second reading**, Paul gives instruction about how Christians should conduct themselves as they wait for Christ's coming. We need to strengthen our hearts in holiness and abound in love for one another. In the Gospel of Luke read today, Jesus gives the last address of His public ministry to the disciples. He is fretful about the future; so He paints a bleak picture of the end of the world. He speaks of nations in agony, bewilderment, people dying of fear and the power which menaces the world. It is a nightmare view of total disaster! But Jesus asks us to be alert, praying that we may have the strength to escape all these things that would take place. There is a far side to disaster. Liberation is near. After the horror story, we might take some solace that it is not all horror. The terrible things that will happen are signs that something else is happening: the Son of man is coming in a cloud with power and glory to save. Out of the disaster comes final liberation for the true disciple.

Like the prophets before Him, Jesus is painting a grim picture of the future in order to influence what is happening now. He does not want to paralyze people with fear but to energize them to action. The real purpose of speaking of the final day is to say something about today – that, we should stay awake. And since the future is determined by those who share responsibility for shaping it – we must all stay awake to what is happening now. The future starts from where we are today.

Today's **Gospel** encourages us to be realistic about the way the world is going, and at the same time not lose hope in the future. This is difficult: for there is the danger that we see the terror clearly and lose reason for hoping. Hence, Advent reminds us that we do not have to sleepwalk into the future. The story of Jesus' love is the basis of our hope. The future holds hope only because we are convinced of God's actions in the past. That is the reason we retell the story again and again beginning with each Advent. We need to be reminded of God's love and get assurance from it. Doing that, we see how far-reaching His love is when we look at His Son, Jesus (Unknown Author and Book).

Advent fills us with the great expectations of the coming of the Messiah. We need to assess our lives daily during this period and make necessary alterations in the light of the approaching Christmas celebrations. That is what is meant by 'being alert.'

Happy Advent!

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 color 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 souls of Irene Cosgrove and Claire Belter (sister-in-law to Bev) as we offer our prayers and sympathy for their families and friends at this time of great loss.

St. Malachy - Election of Wardens - Each year 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 one warden who has served his/her two terms and since no one came forward, agreed to remain until a replacement could be found, and one position becoming vacant. If you or someone you know, with his/her approval, would be interested in serving as a warden and help the Parish in that capacity, please submit the name to a member of the Fabrique or call of the office at 819 986-3763 by December 13, 2018. If an election is necessary it will be held on December 15 after Mass. Thank you.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Heart & Soul Concert: Thursday, **December 6** at 7:30 pm at Our Lady of Victory Church.
Price \$10. For advance tickets call 819-986-1185. Coffee & desserts will be served.

La Chanterelle Concert: Wednesday, **December 12** at 7:30 pm at Our Lady of Victory Church.

The Media Food Drive (La Guignolée des Medias): This year is the 18th edition of the Media Food Drive where various media organizations join forces across Quebec to collect non-perishable food and cash donations in order to help those in need, during both the Holiday Season and the months that follow. January and February are critical months for food banks.

This drive is in the form of road-blocks and the proceeds of our road-blocks are donated to our local food bank, ***La Mie de l'entraide***. The three road-blocks in our territory are:

- corner of MacLaren and Belanger in the Buckingham sector;
- corner of Georges and Fillion in the Masson sector; and
- corner of Laurentides and Neuville in the Angers sector.

All monetary and non-perishable donations will be accepted at these three road-blocks. If you are on the road between 6:00 and 9:00 am next Thursday, December 6th and see these early-morning volunteers begging for donations, please be assured that your generous donation will be used locally at our food bank. You can also make on-line donations at: guignolee.ca or bring your donation to the food bank at 129 Joseph Street (Buckingham Sector).