



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

**EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
JANUARY 5 – 6, 2019**

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
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
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MASSES

Saturday	Jan. 12 th	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	Frances & James Gaspar by Peter & Cheryl Cameron
Sunday	Jan. 13 th	OLV @ 9:00 am	Peter Burke by Rolland & Maureen Caron & Family Peggy Charrette by Susan & Jr. Lemieux Harold, Helen & Sean Cullen by Maureen & Norbert Ricard Larry Cameron by Family & Friends

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
Dec. 25, 2018 – Christmas Collection	\$4046.00	\$1198.00
Dec. 29 - 30, 2018 – Sunday Collection	391.00	182.00
Support	230.00	

Monthly Prayer Intentions of Our Bishop January, 2019

“That peace might prevail in our world which faces large-scale migration caused by wars, economic crises and persecutions. Let us pray that these people might be welcomed with kindness and compassion, and thus experience a sign of hope.”

Social Reflection: “Political office and political responsibility thus constantly challenge those called to the service of their country to make every effort to protect those who live there and to create the conditions for a worthy and just future. If exercised with basic respect for the life, freedom and dignity of persons; political life can indeed become an outstanding form of charity.” “In this context, let us also remember the observation of Pope John XXIII: “Man’s awareness of his rights must inevitably lead him to the recognition of his duties. The possession of rights involves the duty of implementing those rights, for they are the expression of a man’s personal dignity. And the possession of rights also involves their recognition and respect by others.”

-Excerpts of the Pope’s message for the World Day of Peace.

Questions I ask myself: Epiphany, also called the Feast of the three Kings, is a traditional Christian feast celebrating the visit of the three wise men (or kings) to the baby Jesus. One brings gold to celebrate his kingship; the next one, frankincense for his divinity; the last one, myrrh, to announce his redeeming suffering to come. What do I bring to Jesus for this feast? What do I do to contribute to a peaceful atmosphere in my family?

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

Epiphany of the Lord

The Greek word Epiphany (*επιφάνεια*) means *appearance* or *manifestation*. In the Western Church, the Feast of the Epiphany celebrates Jesus' first appearance to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi, while in the Eastern Church the feast is the commemoration of the baptism of Christ where the Father and the Holy Spirit gave combined testimony to Jesus' identity as Son of God. Later, in the synagogue at Nazareth, Jesus revealed Himself as the promised Messiah, and at Cana He revealed His Divinity by transforming water into wine. These multiple revelations are all suggested by the Feast of the Epiphany. In the *first reading*, the Prophet Isaiah says that when the light of the Lord shone on Jerusalem, all people would start coming towards that city, carrying gifts. Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 72) includes a verse about kings coming from foreign lands to pay homage to a just king in Israel. In the *second reading*, St. Paul, writing to the Ephesians, expresses God's secret plan in clear terms: "*the Gentiles have become fellow heirs...and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel.*" God has planned that Jews and Gentiles should become only one people: the people of God. All divisions, partitions, envy, dissensions and wars will have to disappear. We are all children of the same Father in Christ Jesus.

Today's *Gospel* carries the story of the visit of the Magi and the attitude of Herod at the news of the birth of Christ. It teaches us how Christ enriches those who bring Him their hearts. The adoration of the Magi fulfills the oracle of Isaiah (first reading), prophesying that the nations of the world would travel to the Holy City following a brilliant light, bringing gold and incense to contribute to the worship of God. It reminds us that if God permitted the Magi – foreigners and pagans – to recognize and give Jesus proper respect as the King of Jews, we should know that there is nothing in our sinful lives that would keep God from bringing us to Jesus. The gifts presented to Jesus may be thought of as prophesying Jesus' future. Gold was a gift for Kings; frankincense (an ancient air purifier and perfume), was offered to God in Temple worship (Ex. 30:37); and myrrh (an oriental remedy for intestinal worms in infants), was used by the High Priest as an anointing oil (Ex. 30:23), and to prepare bodies for burial. This Gospel periscope presents three groups who reacted to the Epiphany of Christ's birth.

The first group is made up of those who wanted to eliminate Him. This group headed by Herod reacted with hatred toward Him. Secondly, there is a group of people who reacted with indifference composed of priests and scribes, who ignored Jesus. The third group made up of the magi and shepherds, reacted to Jesus with adoration and offered Him gifts. We ought to belong to the third group, by worshiping Jesus at Mass with the gold of our love, the myrrh of our humility and the frankincense of our adoration; by giving a new direction to our lives. Just as the Magi chose another route to return to their homes, let us choose a better way of life, abstaining from proud and impure thoughts, evil habits and selfish behavior. We could be stars leading others to Jesus, as the star led the Magi to Jesus. Let us remove the darkness of the evil around us by radiating Jesus' love through selfless service, unconditional forgiveness and compassionate care. Like the Magi, let us offer Jesus our gifts on this feast of Epiphany: our gift of friendship with God in the form of wholehearted love and devotion; our gift of friendship with others by leading them to Jesus by our exemplary lives of Christian charity in action; our gift of reconciliation with God by daily asking His pardon and forgiveness for our sins and giving unconditional forgiveness to those who offend us; our gift of peace by seeking God's peace in our own lives through prayer, the Sacramental life and daily meditation on the Word of God.

Happy New Year.

OUR LADY of VICTORY & ST. MALACHY NEWS

Vacation: Father Albanus will be returning January 29. Father Bill will be celebrating all Saturday and Sunday masses with us for the month of January.

Baptism - Congratulations to Kara Forcier & Shane Maloney on the occasion of the Baptism of their child this weekend at OLV. We welcome **Rorik** into our faith community, the Body of Christ.

Cereal Bar Drive: Will begin on Sunday, January 17.

Religious Articles and Old Bibles:

Several individuals have contacted the Parishes regarding what to do with religious articles and old Bibles that have been stored away for years. In some instances, inquiries have been made about the possibility of presenting/donating them to the Parishes. This is a non-starter, as the Parishes have more than their share of articles and are not prepared to accept more.

So, the question remains – what to do? According to our research, a common pious custom is to dispose of blessed objects by either burning them (if they are flammable) or burying them (if they are not). In the former case, the object is destroyed and the ashes (or other remains) can simply be thrown away. In the case of objects that were never blessed, they can simply be thrown away like any other non-blessed object.

COMMUNITY NEWS

La Mie de l'entraide: Our local food bank is located at 129 Joseph Street.

ARE YOU NEW TO OUR PARISH? Welcome to all who want to make their faith home here! We would appreciate it if you could identify yourself to Fr. Albanus at mass. If you would like to become a regular parishioner, feel free to contact the office at 819-986-3763 to obtain a Registration Form. **Note:** the weekly collection envelope is the principal source of revenue for both parishes.