

			MASSES	
Thursday	Feb. 14th	OLV @ 10:00 am	Kevin & Greg McNamara by Regis Lemieux	
Saturday	Feb. 16th	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	Peter (50th ann) & Marilyn (29th ann) & The Holy Souls by Ginny Roos Harvey Weatherdon by Shirley, Rolly & Philip Plouffe	
Sunday	Feb. 17th	OLV @ 9:00 am	Tom Laframboise by Val, Lewis & Family Rowe Peter Burke by Aggie Ducharme Lynn Laframboise by Isabel & Family Linda Allen by Family & Friends	

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
Feb 2-3, 2019 - Sunday Offering	\$414.00	\$105.00
Feb 2-3, 2019 - Support	165.00	117.00

Monthly Prayer Intentions of Our Bishop February 2019

"Let us pray that the economical, relational, intellectual, cultural as well as Spiritual rights of all impoverished people around us be recognized."

<u>An Answer to our Faith</u>: We say that God is a loving and just God. Could it be that the basic human rights for all be part of God's justice? Could the World Day of Social Justice say something to us? "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me... In so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." My 25, 35-39.

Question I ask myself: Father Gilbert Géraud tells us about a poor woman who said to him: "The greatest suffering of impoverished people is that nobody needs their friendship." Nobody imagines that we also, feel the need to give. Nobody trusts our dignity, and this is our worse blow. How do I react to this statement?

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

Our Unworthiness and God's Grace

Today's readings speak about God's call to a person and the positive response to this call which leads to discipleship. They also speak of God's own criteria for calling people and challenge us to examine our own personal calls and responses to conversion and discipleship. Though God created us with enormous potentials, we cannot make it through life on our own, unaided by God. The same is true in our calls to be prophets and disciples. God's grace cannot be ruled out. Grace is the gratuitous or unmerited outpouring of God's love, help or benevolence towards his creatures. Isaiah, in the **first reading**, is aware of his frailty and unworthiness when faced with God's holiness. Why should God be *bothered* with accomplished sinners? But, God is not frightened off by sin; He is capable of purifying humans to make them fit to transmit His message. Thus, Isaiah watches as a cherub takes the holy fire with which he comes to touch his lips to burn away all impurity. Isaiah has no more resistance: *Here am I, send me*. Our impurity and sin are not a good reason to turn down the ministry that God or the community entrusts to us. God will purify our lips. He will correct what is wrong in our life. Like Isaiah, we need to accept the forgiveness of God when it is offered and not be proud. The conviction of the reality of God's forgiveness frees us, like Isaiah, to respond to God's challenge. God's forgiveness releases us for mission so that we can offer ourselves. The same message is echoed in the **Gospel**.

Peter and his colleagues who are professional fishermen do their work at night when the fish come to the surface. They have worked at the 'right' time but have caught nothing. Now the professional fishermen are being told by a carpenter to put out during the day! Peter objects, finds the order foolish; the hour of the day is quite unsuitable for fishing, but trusting on the word of Jesus, he casts his nets and the word of Jesus comes home to him when he catches a huge number of fish. Peter's task is to listen to the word of the Lord and then move not towards the place that his experience and professionalism would lead him, but where the Master wants him to go. He recognizes the hand of God in what happened and at the same time realizes his own sinfulness. The miracle is a prelude to Peter and his companions discovering Jesus and becoming His disciples. When our faith is flagging and we are tempted to give up, this often is the precise moment when Jesus enters our life, giving it a new dimension. As Russell Terra writes: '*Our God always comes in surprising ways, at unexpected times, with overwhelming gifts, because this is His way with men.*' As ministers in various capacities, we are by this passage, called not to claim a right to command and impose our will; we are rather invited to see if we really can recognize the voice of the Master and distinguish it from our emotions, intuitions and personal ideas. The miraculous catch is not the result of the ability and initiative of Peter, but of the "if you say so" of the Master.

Professionalism alone does not translate into success in our endeavors. God's grace plays a major role in success. Peter wants Jesus to go away and not bothered with the likes of him: sinners. But Jesus refuses. So, Jesus travels into people's lives, not away from them. He entertains sinners, enters their homes, meets their families, eats at their table, listens to their stories, and calls them to a new way of life. Throughout His life and ministry He is never far from sinners. And on the cross he will die between two of them. Jesus wants Peter and us to share in this mission. He calls Peter and us away from our fixation with our own sinfulness and preoccupation with ourselves, with our unworthiness. Jesus draws out the worth in Peter and us and challenges him and us to do the same by becoming fishers of men and women. Like Isaiah and Peter, Paul in the **second reading**, also feels that he is unworthy of the vocation he received from God. He calls himself "an untimely born", an imperfect person unworthy of being called an apostle. But in spite of being a sinner, Paul became a great announcer of the Gospel. Thus, Jesus does not write us off because we are sinners; He is broadminded when it comes to working with people because He does not believe that people should be summarized by their sin. He believes that sinners have a future, not just a past. Do we really want to have this *future*? God is always there to help us! **Happy Sunday**!

Countdown for Lent:

Lent is a time for penance and repentance, for almsgiving and prayer, for working to change attitudes that are not pleasing to God. Are we ready to begin our journey on March 6th?

OUR LADY of VICTORY & ST. MALACHY NEWS

<u>St. Malachy Wardens':</u> Thank you to Lorraine McDermid who has accepted the position of warden and to Jeff Sellers who has completed his six year term as a warden. The Fabrique has a need for another warden to replace a warden who has completed her six year term. *If you or anyone you know would like to become a warden, please submit his/her name to the church secretary at 819-986-3763 or Joan Teske at 819-281-5962.* Thank you.

St. Malachy Wardens': Meeting on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in the Sacristy.

<u>Cereal Bar Drive</u>: A basket will be at the top of the stairs for your donation next Sunday.

Sharing Kitchen for Seniors: The Sharing Kitchen is looking for Seniors to join their group in fellowship. The kitchen has been a wonderful success, where a cross-section of participants meet on a monthly basis at St. Andrews Anglican Church. This group provides a great opportunity to make new friends, share your special recipes, learn about new recipes as well as enjoy a great meal and share life experiences.

If you are interested, please call John Carson at 819-986-9711. It will be a great investment in time spent.

Upcoming Events (OLV): At a recent Wardens meeting, the following items were discussed:

• The **Spring Supper and Balloon Auction** will be held on **Friday**, **May 24**th with Spaghetti as the main menu item - more information to follow

- Family Day date still to be confirmed
- Volunteer Appreciation Night will be held in October; date still to be confirmed

Hall Rental: Bill Cameron is the person to contact for rental of the hall. He can be reached at 819-986-8901.

Also, the hall is rented during the week and you are asked to contact the office secretary at 819-986-3763 before entering to see about availability.