

MASSES					
Thursday	May 9 th	OLV @ 10:00 am	All Parishioners of OLV & St. Malachy		
Saturday	May 11 th	St. Malachy @ 7:00 pm	Nora Somers by The Estate		
Sunday	May 12 th	OLV @ 9:00 am	Bride Caroll by Val & Lewis Rowe		
			Lyall & Nan Sicard by The Family		
			Kaye & Sharon Lemieux by Terrie Lemieux		
			Roberta Farnand by Family & Friends		
			Larry Cameron by Family & Friends		

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
Apr. 27-28, 2019 - Sunday Offering	\$584.00	\$293.00
Apr. 27-28, 2019 - Fuel	337.00	180.00
Apr. 27-28, 2019 - Holy Land	208.00	25.00
Apr. 27-28, 2019 – Development & Peace	865.00	167.20

Monthly Prayer Intentions of Our Bishop May 2019

Let us pray that, with Mary, we might share more and more the life of the resurrected Lord, listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit, and discerning together the next steps of our synodal process

<u>Thing to ponder</u>: The second part of the second step of our diocesan synod is well under way. I continue to examine thoroughly the report of the first step1 and I pray that the persons in charge focus on the right leads to the third step.

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

The Word of the Risen Lord is the Guide

Today's Scriptural readings tell us that the Word of the Risen Lord guides the Christian community. Christ, now raised, lives with the Father, but He has not abandoned His disciples. He continues to be present and direct their lives and work through His Word. Whenever the Christian communities follow His indication, then the results are extraordinary. The first reading tells us how the Holy Spirit transformed Peter, from a man fearful of the authorities into a brave witness to the Resurrection. Peter stands before the Sanhedrin boldly announcing that he and others must obey God rather than men. In the second reading we are presented with John's vision of the Risen Lord as the glorified "Lamb of God," enthroned in heaven. The whole of the Revelation is an expression of Christian hope in the Risen Lord. The Gospel presents the story of the large quantity of fish caught by the disciples, thanks to the guidance of the Risen Lord.

In this Gospel, we have the post-Resurrection story of our merciful Savior who goes in search of His disappointed and dejected disciples. The incident proves that Jesus' post-Resurrection appearances were not mere hallucinations. Jesus appears to His disciples and gives them a symbol of their mission in a miraculous catch of fish followed by a breakfast prepared by Jesus Himself. This story described with a clear catechetical intention shows that only the presence of the Risen Jesus can make the evangelizing works of His disciples effective. Without Jesus, it is not possible. The disciples went out fishing, but they did not set out listening to Jesus' call, but following Simon Peter's intention. They worked all night and caught nothing. In the language of the evangelist, the "night" signifies the absence of Jesus who is Light. Without His presence, without His encouragement and His guiding Word, there is no fruitful evangelization. When morning appeared, Jesus appeared. The disciples did not know it was Jesus, and they only recognized Him when they obediently followed His direction and ended up with a surprising haul.

The experience of the first Christian communities is similar to ours now. We too have to understand that Jesus, though standing on the "shore", that is, in the glory of His Father, is still and always with us, every day and always up to the end of time. Sometimes in our efforts, things seem not to be going well. We think we need to double our efforts and seek progress at any price. But what we need to do is to stop and take better care of the living presence of the Risen One in our work. We may have all kinds of meetings, but what is decisive is what gathers us together to celebrate the Lord's Supper: Jesus Himself. Only in Him is our evangelizing energy nourished. Faith in His abiding presence is important. Faith gives us the certainty that He continues to talk to us. He calls us and shows us what we should do. But we must listen to, and be guided by, His voice. The later part of the Gospel narrates the rehabilitation of Peter. Peter, we recall, denied Jesus three times. The man chosen by Jesus to exercise primacy of authority is the one who was caught out by a servant girl as he lied insistently. He is the one who was arrested by a cock crowing in the dark. But Jesus now demands from Peter an unconditional capacity to love, a greater capacity than anybody else. He asks him three times, a correspondence with Peter's triple denial.

Jesus demands *agape* love from Peter. But Peter can only offer *philia*. So He accepts Peter the way he is; even his friendship (*philia*) is good enough. Fullness of *agape* can come later. Peter is like saying: *"I love you Lord; help my lack of love"*. Jesus asks him to "look after the sheep", not to impose his will on others, but to give up his life for the others. To be a leader of the followers of Jesus is to be of service to others. Every disciple like Peter is called to "look after" the sheep and lambs of Christ. The story of Peter's denial of Jesus and Jesus' acceptance of Peter has an important lesson for us: there is a part of us that does not love, that denies the Lord when our lives or our wellbeing is at stake. Peter's example invites us to bring this negative experience to God for healing. So, today, let us join Peter in His confession: *"I love you Lord; help my lack of love."* He is always there and willing to accept us where He finds us. His grace will help us like Peter to offer Him unconditional love (*agape*) at the end.

Happy Easter!

OUR LADY of VICTORY & ST. MALACHY NEWS

<u>A Good News Financial Report for OLV</u>: In today's bulletin, you will find a financial report covering OLV's fiscal years 2017and 2018. This is a good news report, as both years present a surplus - \$9,275 for 2017 and \$10,614 for 2018. What is quite satisfying is the fact that we continue to show surpluses, even though attendance at Sunday mass is not what it used to be. The reason of course is due to the generous support of our parishioners, who continue to provide financial support faithfully.

It is with gratitude that the OLV Wardens take this opportunity to thank our parishioners for their generous support of our faith community.

Wardens Needed at OLV: OLV has two vacant Warden positions that need to be filled in order to ensure the efficient financial and materiel management of the Parish. The Parish is at a crossroads, as our volunteer base has dwindled substantially. The future of the Parish is increasingly linked to our ability to manage our resources effectively and the future cannot be guaranteed if we don't have a management team in place to address both short and long term issues.

Being a member of the management team is not onerous and Parishioners may incorrectly believe that a position with the Wardens team will result in a heavy workload. This is not the case, as a commitment would include one meeting per month and responsibility with a team member for a parish activity.

If you are interested in joining our management team, please contact the Parish Secretary.

Spring Supper and Balloon Auction May 24th – WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT: This year's menu, once again, will be spaghetti and meat sauce, buns, salad and homemade desserts followed by our popular Balloon Auction. **Cocktails** will be served at 4:30 p.m. with **supper** at 6:00 p.m. **Tickets**: \$20.00 for Adults, \$5.00 for Children aged 6 to 12 and free for Children under 6 years of age.

As in the past years, we are asking parishioners to donate items for the auction, preferably gift certificates from local businesses, and gift baskets of homemade items or plant arrangements. Donations should be received **no later than Monday, May 20th.**



Thank you for your generous support of the 2019 Share Lent campaign!

Development and Peace – Caritas Canada thanks you for your Share Lent donation. Thanks to your generosity, **\$1,032.20** was collected in our two parishes. This sum will help support the actions of our sisters and brothers in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East. If you have not had a chance to donate, there is still time to place your Share Lent envelope in the Offertory or to donate online at <u>devp.org/give</u>. Thank you for continuing to pray for all those who are working to build a world of peace and justice.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Our Lady of the Annunciation Parish will be holding a Spring Auction on Tuesday, May 7th, 2019 at the Church Centre, 189 Archambault Street, Gatineau (Hull Sector). Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for viewing, bidding starts at 6:30 p.m. Admission \$2. Draws will be held for door prizes throughout the evening. For additional information, tel. 819-771-4613 or 819-777-8825.