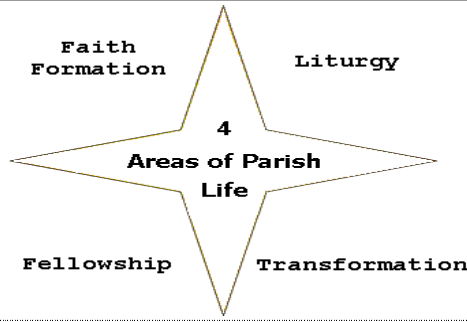




Our Lady of Victory
 490 Charles Street
 Gatineau, Québec
 J8L 2K5



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

28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 12 & 13, 2019

Sunday 9:00 AM

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday 7:00 PM

Pastor Father Albanus Ogowuihe
Rectory 490 Charles Street, Gatineau, Québec, J8L 2K5
Office Admin. 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



MASSES

Thursday	Oct 17 th	OLV @ 10:00 a.m.	All Parishioners of OLV & St. Malachy
Saturday	Oct. 19 th	St. Malachy @ 7:00 p.m.	All Parishioners of St. Malachy & OLV
Sunday	Oct. 20 th	OLV @ 9:00 a.m.	Tom Laframboise – by Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Ryan John Strimas – by Barbara Weir Hilda Ranger – by Val, Lewis & Family Theresa Newton – by Family & Friends

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
Oct. 5 - 6, 2019 - Sunday Offering	\$663.00	\$210.00
Oct. 5 - 6, 2019 - Support	320.00	135.00
Canadian Churches	25.00	

Thank you for your contribution

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

Gratitude

The central theme of today's readings is gratitude – in particular, the expression of gratitude God expects from us. Today's **first reading** presents the story of Naaman. Naaman, the Syrian military commander, was an outcast not only because of his leprosy; he was also a non-Israelite. But he returned to thank the Prophet Elisha for the cure of his leprosy, and as a sign of his gratitude. He not only rejoiced in the gift of healing he had received but also recognized the giver and so transferred his allegiance to the God of Israel. So, that shows that the God of Israel heals the outsider and the pagan. St. Paul, in the **second reading**, advises Timothy to be grateful to God even in his physical sufferings and amid the dangers associated with spreading the Word of God because God will always be faithful to His people.

The **Gospel** story tells us of a single non-Jewish leper (a "Samaritan heretic"), who returned to thank Jesus for healing him, while the nine Jewish lepers went their way. One may perhaps surmise that under the false impression that healing was their right as God's chosen people, they hurried off to obtain health certificates from the priests. Luke notably is the only New Testament writer who mentioned Naaman the leper (cf 4:27). Writing to the Gentiles (Luke also was a Gentile); he has particular inclination to present God's call to all peoples. It is therefore not surprising here that Luke's story tells us that the only one who shows gratitude is a foreigner, the Samaritan. Like Naaman, it is the outsider who shows his faith in God and his gratitude to the Servant of God (Jesus). He comes in praise of God and makes Jesus his new destination.

Jesus feels bewildered and disappointed by the absence of the other nine and so asks, "Were not ten made clean?" The ingratitude of the others makes Jesus to wonder. What makes people that way? Why is saying 'thank you' such a problem? Mark Twain says bluntly "If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you. That is the principal difference between a dog and a man." It is probable that the nine lepers were appreciative of the healing gesture of Jesus. But we don't know why they never bothered to *show* their gratitude. It may however be better for us to turn to ourselves and ask why we are often reluctant to say 'thank you'. As one author says "whatever the reason for our own ingratitude, we know it diminishes us and those who help us. Ingratitude makes the bill for helping people hard to pick up."

Brothers and sisters, this is coincidentally thanksgiving weekend when we are supposed to thank God for his numerous blessings; things we do not earn. We are here today in the *Eucharistic* celebration. Eucharist comes from the Greek noun *eucharistia* meaning *thanksgiving*. We come here every Sunday to thank God in the midst of the community. We do what Naaman and the Samaritan leper did. We should let our thanks find expression in this Eucharistic celebration. Although we receive so much from God, we often take it for granted, without appreciating His gifts. We allow the negatives of our lives to hide from ourselves the blessings we have received -- minor negatives like some health problems, financial worries, conflict with a neighbour or co-worker or spouse. Besides, we are often thankful only when we compare ourselves with less fortunate people. There are of course a lot of them, even among us. Saying thanks to God together with the parish community, sharing our time, talents and material blessings in the parish and sharing the Heavenly Bread of Thanksgiving, the Holy Eucharist, are the simple forms of thanksgiving we can offer every Sunday and in the course of the week in response to God's blessings. Meister Eckhart, the Medieval mystic, says that if the only prayer we say in our lifetime is 'thank you' that will suffice.

Finally, we must realize that faith is not a monopoly of the baptized. There are 'unbaptized Samaritans', 'outcasts' around us whom we casually tag as non-Christians but who by their exemplary lives are more authentic Christians than many of us. We should avoid being over-presumptuous. Virtue is not the prerogative of Christians.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Fr AI

OUR LADY of VICTORY & ST. MALACHY NEWS

Cereal Bar Drive: Next Sunday a basket will be at top of stairs for your donation.

Office Hours: Closed Monday, October 14 and opened on Tuesday, October 15.

An Update on a Capital Expenditure (OLV) : The OLV Wardens have contracted to replace the windows in the hallway that connects the rectory to the church. The total cost of this project is \$6,346.57. The windows should be installed within 5 to 6 weeks. The contract is with Thermos Vision located in Masson. This investment is a continuation of the ongoing strategy to control heating costs.

OLV Needs Your Support: A key to our success as a Faith Community is our ability to adequately support the celebration of the most Holy Eucharist (mass) every Sunday. That support comes in many forms such as community attendance and active support for key activities. Three key areas we need to look at and where there are issues are Lectors, Servers and Eucharistic Ministers.

Servers: Presently, our two remaining Servers have agreed to provide their services every other week, except for during the summer months when there are no servers. When there is no server, some of the duties are transferred to the Eucharistic Minister. ***These servers are also on duty for funerals.***

Eucharistic Ministers: Presently there are three Eucharistic Ministers, who have been providing this service to our parish for many years. This involves setting up the altar before the mass celebration, assisting the priest during the Eucharist, and returning all vessels, etc. to the sacristy after the celebration. ***We need to find more volunteers who are willing to become Eucharistic Ministers.***

Lectors: Presently there are four Lectors; they read approximately once a month, and as a result of a shortage of Eucharistic Ministers, also act as the second Eucharistic Minister. The problem is that two of these Lectors are away over the winter months, thus putting more pressure on the two remaining to play the dual roles of Lector and second Eucharistic Minister. ***Therefore, we need to find a minimum of two more volunteers.***

Considering that there are fewer and fewer parishioners every year at our Sunday celebrations, the burden of responsibility in our few remaining Ministers is very heavy. Please consider the fact that as a spiritual community, we all need to do our share if we are to continue to be successful. ***We are presently coming to a crisis point when it comes to our volunteer base.***

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Buckingham Friendship Club: Every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall. **Bingo begins at 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.** then cookies, coffee and tea served afterwards. All are welcome! Come meet new friends and enjoy your afternoon.


Give
THANKS
WITH A GRATEFUL
HEART  *1 Thessalonians. 5:18*