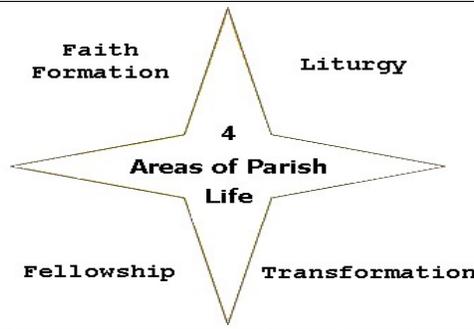




Our Lady of Victory
Built 1948
 490 Charles Street
 Gatineau, Québec
 J8L 2K5



St. Malachy
Built 1864
 3889 Route 315
 Mayo, Québec
 J8L 3Z8

3rd Sunday of Advent
DECEMBER 12-13, 2020

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

MASSES

Saturday	Dec. 19 th	St. Malachy @ 7:00 p.m.	Frances Gaspar by Cheryl & Peter Cameron Mary & Michael McDonnell by Doris & Andre Provost Nora Somers by The Estate
Sunday	Dec. 20 th	OLV @ 9:00 a.m.	Christopher Farnand (8th ann) by The Family Tom Laframboise by The Estate

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
Dec. 5-6, 2020 - Sunday Collection	\$ 568.00	\$ 200.00
Dec. 5-6, 2020 - Support	245.00	90.00
- Missals	204.00	
- Christmas Flowers		45.00

Thank you for your contributions

Christmas Mass Schedule for OLV & St. Malachy

Saturday	Dec. 19 th		7:00 pm	St. Malachy	Father Albanus
Sunday	Dec. 20 th		9:00 am	OLV	
Thursday	Dec. 24 th	Christmas Eve	7:00 pm	OLV	Father Bill
			9:00 pm	St. Malachy	
Friday	Dec. 25 th	Christmas Day	9:00 am	OLV	Father Albanus
Saturday	Dec. 26 th		7:00 pm	St. Malachy	
Sunday	Dec. 27 th		9:00 am	OLV	
Thursday	Dec. 31 st	New Year's Eve	7:00 pm	St. Malachy	
Friday	Jan. 1 st	New Year's Day	9:00 am	OLV	

Father is available for confession. Please make an appointment by calling him at 819-663-5244.

ST. MALACHY: 4:30 pm Saturday Mass during the months of January & February

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

The Joy and the Voice

First Reading: Isaiah 61.1-2a, 10-11
Psalm: My soul shall exult in my God
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24
Gospel: John 1.6-8, 19-28

Third Sunday of Advent is called **Gaudete Sunday** because the Mass for today in its original Latin text, begins with the opening antiphon: '**Gaudete in Domino semper**' - Rejoice in the Lord always. We have passed half-way point in Advent. This reminds us that the Lord is near and we are shifting our focus to a sense of joy for the coming of Christ. The Prophet Isaiah in the first reading announces happiness for all the broken-hearted. He encourages the Jewish exiles returning from Babylon to rejoice because their God, Yahweh, is their strong Guide, Provider and Protection. The Prophet exclaims: *I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall exult in my God.* In the responsorial Psalm, Mary rejoices in the great blessing given to her: *My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my saviour* (Lk. 1:46ff). St Paul too, in the second reading echoes the same theme of joy. He advises the Thessalonians to 'rejoice always' by leading blameless, holy and thankful lives guided by the Holy Spirit. Why? Because the second coming of Christ is near and He is faithful in His promise to reward them.

The Gospel speaks about John the Baptist. It tells us that John came to bear witness to Jesus as the Light of the world. John wants all the Jews to rejoice because the long-expected Messiah, the Light, will remove the darkness of sin from the world. The humility of the Baptist stands out in this Gospel. He tells the priests and Levites who challenge him that he is not the Messiah. John calls himself the 'voice'. A voice is a combination of sounds that convey a message. A voice disappears once the message is passed and only the message remains. The sincerity and commitment of John are evident in his devotion to be just a voice witnessing to the coming of the Light into the world, and then, once his mission is accomplished, he disappears to avoid drawing the people to himself rather than to the Light. He expresses the same sentiment when he says *'He must grow greater, I must grow less'* (Jn. 3:30). His work is to prepare the people for the Messiah. We rejoice too because, like John, we are chosen to bear witness to Christ, the Light of the world. Again, how can we recognize the 'voice' showing us the Light among so many voices? Are we ready to open our hearts and minds when we hear the 'voice' or are going to close them or allow them to be blinded as some did despite the voice of John the Baptist?

As brothers and sisters of Christ and members of His Church, our mission is to reflect Christ's light to others as the moon reflects the light of the sun. We should be the 'voice' proclaiming Christ to others. Do we at times have the tendency to proclaim ourselves rather than proclaim Christ? During this Advent, it is pertinent that we reflect Christ's sharing love and unconditional forgiveness. In communities, there are people who are in darkness and poverty; those who lack the real freedom because of their evil addictions and bad choices. We also have those who are deafened and blinded by the cheap attractions of the world. Others are lonely, unwanted, rejected and marginalized. Like John we are called to bring the true Light of Christ to illumine the lives of these people during this Advent season. They need our sharing love, overflowing mercy, unconditional forgiveness and humble service. But we can only do this by repenting of our sins and renewing our lives, by engaging ourselves daily in prayers and frequenting the sacrament of reconciliation and participating in the Eucharist and feeding on the Word of God and performing works of mercy. Happy Sunday!

OLV Schedule for Lectors & Ushers

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>USHERS</u>
Dec. 20	Diane D.	Ken & Nancy

PLEASE ADVISE EACH OTHER IF CHANGES ARE TO BE MADE & ADVISE MONIQUE SO SEATING ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE ADJUSTED

Our Lady of Victory & St. Malachy News

Request to Parishioners: *Please look at the above holiday schedule and advise the office whether you will be attending Christmas Eve or Christmas Day mass at OLV. How about New Year's Day? Seating arrangements must be planned to accommodate a maximum of 25 people. Office: 819-986-3763 or via email at olv@videotron.ca*

St. Malachy Masses: Note that for the months of January and February masses will be on Saturday at **4:30 p.m. and not 7:00 p.m.**

PYX: All who bring a PYX to Sunday mass, Father has asked that you place it **opened** on the table at the bottom of the altar **prior to mass**. Father to fill and then you can pick up as you come to communion.

Mass Attendance (OLV): Please call the office **IF YOU ARE NOT** going to be attending on Sunday. **(819-986-3763)**. **There are people who could take your place. Due to our limited space this kind gesture would be appreciated.**

On-Going Collections: Used postage stamps, egg cartons, pop tabs, new and used candles, cereal bars (2nd Sunday of each month) and donations to Food Bank. Did you know that the **pop tabs** are converted to cash and donated to the **Monarque Palliative care house** in Montebello?

COMMUNITY NEWS



Annual Lions Club Blitz

The Buckingham Lions Club has indicated that, because we are now in the red zone for the coronavirus pandemic, the usual activities associated with the Annual Lions Club Blitz cannot be organized this year. Consequently, our two parishes will not be collecting donations for the 2020 Lions Club Blitz.

Instead, we are invited to participate in the Blitz by making donations on a virtual GoFundMe platform which can be found on the Buckingham Lions Club Facebook page. If an on-line donation is not possible, donations can also be mailed to the Buckingham Lions Club, P.O. Box 2714, Gatineau QC J8L 2X1