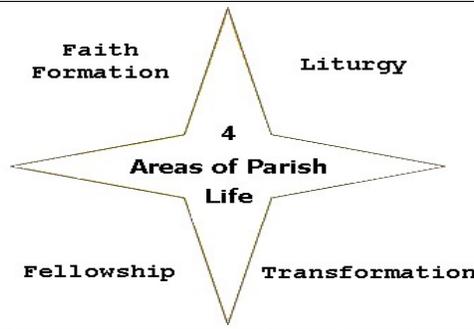




**Our Lady of Victory**  
**Built 1948**  
 490 Charles Street  
 Gatineau, Québec  
 J8L 2K5



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

**NATIVITY OF THE LORD**  
**DECEMBER 24-25,**  
**& 27, 2020**  
**January 1, 2021**

|  |                                     |   |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Sunday 9:00 AM</b>  | <b>Celebration of the Eucharist</b> | <b>Saturday 7:00 PM</b>   |
| <b>Pastor</b> Father Albanus Ogowuihe<br><b>Rectory</b> 490 Charles Street, Gatineau, Québec, J8L 2K5<br><b>Office Admin.</b> Monique Simpson<br><b>Email</b> <a href="mailto:olv@videotron.ca">olv@videotron.ca</a><br><b>Office Hours</b> <b>Monday</b> - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm<br><b>Wednesday</b> - 9:00 am - 11:00 am<br><b>Thursday</b> - 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm<br><b>Telephone</b> (819) 986-3763<br><b>Website</b> <a href="http://www.stmalachyolv.com">www.stmalachyolv.com</a> |                                     | <br>Archidiocèse<br>de Gatineau<br>180, boul. Mont-Bleu<br>Gatineau (QC) J8Z 3J5<br><a href="http://www.diocesegatineau.org">www.diocesegatineau.org</a> |

**MASSES**

|          |                       |                         |   |
|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Saturday | Dec. 26 <sup>th</sup> | St. Malachy @ 7:00 p.m. | <b>John &amp; Mathea Stevens</b> by Margaret Farnand & Family |
| Sunday   | Dec. 27 <sup>th</sup> | OLV @ 9:00 a.m.         | <b>Peter Burke</b> by Family & Friends                        |
| Saturday | Jan. 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | St. Malachy @ 4:30 p.m. | <b>All Parishioners of St. Malachy &amp; OLV</b>              |
| Sunday   | Jan. 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | OLV @ 9:00 a.m.         | <b>Diane Cameron</b> by Nicole Charbonneau                    |

| WEEKLY RECEIPTS                         | OLV       | ST. MALACHY |
|---|-----------|-------------|
| Dec. 13, 2020 - Sunday Collection       |           | \$ 205.00   |
| Dec. 19-20, 2020 - Sunday Collection    | \$ 236.00 | 307.00      |
| Christmas Flowers                       | 25.00     |             |
| Interest                                | .49       |             |
| Donation                                |           | 100.00      |
| <i>Thank you for your contributions</i> |           |             |

**Christmas Mass Schedule for OLV & St. Malachy**

|          |                       |                |         |             |                |
|----------|-----------------------|----------------|---------|-------------|----------------|
| Saturday | Dec. 26 <sup>th</sup> |                | 7:00 pm | St. Malachy | Father Albanus |
| Sunday   | Dec. 27 <sup>th</sup> |                | 9:00 am | OLV         |                |
| Thursday | Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup> | New Year's Eve | 7:00 pm | St. Malachy |                |
| Friday   | Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>  | New Year's Day | 9:00 am | OLV         |                |
| Saturday | Jan. 2 <sup>nd</sup>  |                | 4:30 pm | St. Malachy |                |

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

**2020 Christmas Message**  
**From Mgr. Paul-André Durocher**

A witty cartoon is making the rounds of social media. The three wise men wearing medical masks queue up at the entrance to the manger, carefully distant from each other. They patiently wait their turn for an attendant to invite them to disinfect their hands before entering.

Seeing this cartoon made me smile. However, it also makes me realize the full extent of the impact of COVID-19 on our personal and community lives. Even our relationship with God is affected. We constantly face the challenge of gathering to celebrate Sunday Mass, funerals, weddings and baptisms. We can't hold meetings, prayer services or social gatherings. Catechesis, prayer groups, biblical sharing, everything has gone online or been cancelled, for better or for worse. In addition, our charitable activities - soup kitchens, canvassing for donations, Christmas baskets and emergency community services - are deeply affected.

Yes, parish life is going through a really rough time. Our personal faith lives, too. Deprived of community support, our confidence is shaken. We are forced to live like hermits, even if we don't have the vocation. The sheer scale of this pandemic raises a persistent question: where is God in all of this?

Let's go back to the cartoon. The Magi had seen signs in the heavens heralding the birth of someone who would shake up history itself. What could they have thought when they arrived at the manger? They must have seriously doubted their divinatory arts. How could such an important person be born in such poverty, in such loneliness? Still, they laid their gifts at his crib: the incense usually offered to God in the Temple; the gold that typically belonged to emperors; and myrrh, used to prepare bodies for burial after death. Did they understand the deep meaning of these gifts? They silently proclaimed the hidden identity of this newborn child as Son of God, Prince of peace and Savior of the world.

What of us? Can we recognize the presence of God at the heart of our loneliness, our poverty, our fears and, yes, our doubts? In Jesus, the Mystery that surrounds us has taken on a human face to tell us that we are cherished, forgiven and loved. The source of all life has drawn near so that each one of us might be fully alive. Jesus lived our human experience with all it entails: joys and sorrows, adventures and failures, deep friendship and overwhelming betrayal. He is no stranger to the loneliness and helplessness we experience these days as a result of the pandemic. Yet, whatever the circumstances, he never ceased doing good to others, loving them and serving them. In his life, we discover a beautiful paradox: as we carry the burdens of others, our own burdens become lighter.

We will celebrate Christmas this year in a more solitary, recollected and reflective way than usual. We will be a little like Mary and Joseph in the manger: far from the folk we love, uncertain of the future, fearful for the present. However, with them, we are called to live in hope, for God is close to us, with us and in us. May this conviction nourish our courage and allow us to live, in spite of everything, a merry Christmas... and, why not, a joyful Three Kings' Day! I assure you of my prayer, my solidarity and my blessing.

+ *Paul-André Durocher*

**OLV Schedule for Lectors & Ushers**

| <b>DATE</b>           | <b>DAY</b> | <b>TIME</b> | <b>LECTORS</b> | <b>USHERS</b> |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| Dec. 27 <sup>th</sup> | Sunday     | 9 am        | Virginia       | Lyall & Gail  |
| Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Friday     | 9 am        | Linda          | Ken & Monique |
| Jan. 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Sunday     | 9 am        | Diane          | Lyall & Gail  |
| Jan. 10 <sup>th</sup> | Sunday     | 9 am        | Virginia       | Nancy & Ken   |
| Jan. 17 <sup>th</sup> | Sunday     | 9 am        | Linda          | Lyall & Gail  |
| Jan. 24 <sup>th</sup> | Sunday     | 9 am        | Diane          | Nancy & Ken   |
| Jan. 31 <sup>st</sup> | Sunday     | 9 am        | Virginia       | Lyall & Gail  |

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

## Christmas Message from Fr. Albanus

Brothers and sisters, here we are again! We are blessed with yet another opportunity to celebrate Christmas. Everyone longed for this but not everyone is that privileged. We thank God for making it possible for us. "The celebration of Christmas this year may be different for reasons known. But it is still Christmas! We have to look beyond our difficulties, sufferings and restriction to see an infinitely provident God who has come as He always does, to be with us"

"A child is born to us"; and this child is God. This is what we celebrate. The coming of Jesus, the Son of God at Christmas, was and is the best Good News. A Child is born in a manger, that Child is God! A most tremendous tale of all! The Maker of all, heaven and earth, stars and sea etc., has become a Child on earth for you and me. Our reaction must not be one of fear but awe and wonder.

Imagine that night at the stable. You would see there a poor young woman, Mary, with her husband Joseph, and a new baby. St. Luke in the Gospel (2:1-14) wants to tell us that this birth is not a fiction, but a real event. The birth of Jesus, the Son of God, is identical to that of any other person. That helpless, vulnerable baby is the Anointed One, the long expected Messiah foretold by the Prophets (Mic. 5:1). That is the surprise! How can the Almighty God become a small and powerless baby? Yes, God, in His plan of salvation, does not follow the logic of man. Men expected to see a strong and powerful king. But, instead God sent a child, who, far from helping is Himself in need of help. He is not born in a great palace, but in a manger, and He does not possess any of the means that people consider absolutely necessary to transform the world: money, arms, power or powerful alliances. Jesus is a perfectly normal child, with just one characteristic: He is poor and among poor people. God chooses poverty and weakness and teaches us to discard the human way of relying on power and strength.

Christmas speaks about God's love. The Baby Jesus, in the manger bespeaks the mystery of God's love for us. God became man so that we might become more like God. He sent His Son, the Light to dispel the darkness of our life. We are called to replicate God's love and light in our world. The presence of God among us is not what we expect, nor where we expect. Thus, we are called to look in the most unlikely places to see Jesus: in the street where the homeless stay; in refugee camps; in the poor; in hospitals and nursing homes; in uncomfortable places and spaces; in new born babies, in hungry children, in wrinkled senior citizens etc., to see Jesus and respond to Him appropriately.

Christmas is a celebration of gratitude. So, I thank all the parishioners for your contributions, support and prayers. I thank all who help in our celebrations, the wardens, the volunteers of various ministries, the secretary and all those who work behind the scene to keep our parish going. I welcome the visitors who have come to share the joys of Christmas with us. **I wish you all Merry Christmas and a prospective New Year!**

## Our Lady of Victory and St. Malachy News

**Christmas Message from the OLV Wardens:** On behalf of the OLV Wardens, I would like to take this opportunity to wish our parishioners a joyful Christmas and a healthy and hopeful New Year. Needless to say, it has been a difficult year and remains so. As a faith community, we have had to make a lot of life adjustments in order to allow for the celebration of mass. With this in mind, I would like to thank all those volunteers who make it possible to address the various government guidelines and Diocesan directives and thus allow for the celebration of mass. Also, thank you for the Zoom mass, permitting those who cannot attend mass for various reasons to celebrate with our community.

Advent is a time of hope, as we wait for the coming of the Lord. Our hope has also been buoyed by the announcement of a vaccine to address this terrible pandemic. So, we need to be optimistic as the sacrifices we will be required to make this Christmas will allow for many more Christmases to be celebrated with our families and faith community. Our faith will be our source of energy as we move forward to better times.

**Bill Cameron, Chairperson of the Fabrique**

**Christmas Message from St. Malachy's Wardens:** The wardens send best wishes for a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year to our parishioners, family and friends. A special thank you to all the volunteers who worked and continue to deal with restrictions imposed by governments and the Diocese with regard to our faith celebrations. To all who attend our Celebration of the Eucharist, thank you for your understanding and continued support. The Covid-19 pandemic has presented many challenges for all of us. But, just as Christmas lights bring light to a dark season, the Baby Jesus brings light to a dark world!

**Income Tax Receipts:** Both parishes will issue out receipts in early 2021 for mass intentions, weekly envelopes and other donations. Our fiscal year ends Dec. 31, 2020.