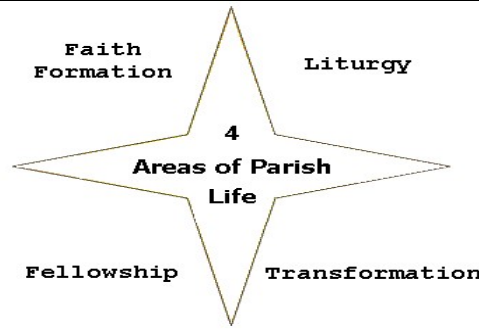




Our Lady of Victory
Built 1948
 490 Charles Street
 Gatineau, Québec
 J8L 2K5



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

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 9-10, 2021

Sunday 9:00 AM

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday 4:30 PM

Pastor Father Albanus Ogowuihe
Rectory 490 Charles Street, Gatineau, Québec, J8L 2K5
Secretary 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
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 Gatineau (QC) J8Z 3J5
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MASSES

Saturday	Jan. 16 th	St. Malachy @ 4:30 p.m.	All parishioners of St. Malachy & OLV
Sunday	Jan. 17 th	OLV @ 9:00 a.m.	All parishioners of OLV & St. Malachy

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	OLV	ST. MALACHY
Jan. 1 - New Year's Collection	\$ 250.00	\$ 290.00
Jan. 2-3 - Initial Offering	275.00	43.00
Jan. 2-3 - Sunday Offering	400.00	195.00
Jan. 2-3 - Support	170.00	125.00
- Christmas	280.00	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

The celebration of the Baptism of the Lord draws the Christmas season to a close. For the last six weeks we have been in one of the Church's high seasons: Advent/Christmas. The focus of this 6-week season is on the coming of Christ: his coming that took place some 2000 years ago in Bethlehem; his coming that takes place now in the proclamation of God's word and in the celebration of the Sacraments; and his coming in glory that we look forward to in joyful hope.

Tomorrow, we move into Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time is a time of growth and maturing in discipleship. It is most noticeable by the green vestments that the priest wears in that season, but it also shows in the Scripture readings chosen for this season and in the orientation of the Church's prayers. We will be in that mode until February 17th when the forty day Lenten period begins with Ash Wednesday - Easter will be celebrated on April 4th 2021.

Our thanks to those who contributed to making the Advent/Christmas season with its celebrations significant for our ongoing faith journey.

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

The Baptism of the Lord



First Reading: Isaiah 55.1-11

Psalm: With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation

Second Reading: 1 John 5.1-9

Gospel: Mark 1.7-11

Christmas as the celebration of God's self-revelation through Jesus actually comes to a close with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord. The celebration of the Baptism of the Lord as the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, serves also as the beginning of the ordinary time of the Liturgical year. Jesus did not have to be baptized and to be cleansed; His baptism rather was the acceptance and beginning of His mission as God's suffering servant. His baptism is seen as a moment when God's plan is fulfilled in Jesus. He allowed Himself to be numbered among sinners. Out of love, He consented to His baptism of death for the remission of our sins. Many Fathers of the Church explained that Jesus received baptism to identify Himself with His people, who, as a result of John's preaching, for the first time in Jewish history became aware of their sins and of their need for repentance. The Jews traditionally believed that only the Gentiles who embraced Jewish religion needed the baptism of repentance, for, as God's chosen people, the Jewish race was holy (Kadavil, A).

St. Gregory of Nazianzus puts it in perspective when he writes, "*John is baptizing when Jesus draws near. Perhaps he comes to sanctify his baptizing when Jesus draws near. Perhaps he comes to sanctify the baptizer; certainly he comes to bury sinful humanity in the waters. He comes to sanctify the Jordan for our sake and in readiness for us; he who is spirit and flesh comes to begin a new creation through Spirit and water. Jesus rises from the waters; the world rises with him.*" Jesus' baptism by John was a mystical experience that Jesus felt deep within His soul at the crucial turning point of His life. The Gospel of Mark which we read today presents the symbolic events of Jesus' baptism. The heavens were open and the Holy Spirit descended as a dove upon Jesus and a voice from heaven declared Him as "*my Beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.*" These events are God's revelation to humankind of the mystery that He is Triune. The presence of the Trinity at His baptism reveals Jesus' true identity and mission. The opening of heavens shows that this was a moment of God's powerful intervention in human history and in the life of His Son. The heavens like Paradise with its flaming sword, closed by Adam for himself and his descendants, are once more opened.

The baptism of Jesus by John was an event of many implications in His life. First, it was a **moment of decision** for Jesus. It marked the end of His private life in preparation for His public ministry. Second (as stated earlier), it was a **moment of identification** with His people in their God-ward movement initiated by John the Baptist. Thirdly, it is a **moment of approval** from His Heavenly Father. The Father declared Him "**Beloved Son.**" Fourthly, it was a **moment of conviction**; Jesus received assurances from heavens about His identity and the nature of mission. Jesus was the Chosen one and Beloved of God with the mission of saving humankind by becoming the "*suffering servant of God*" (i.e., by His Cross). Finally, the baptism of Jesus was a **moment of equipment**; the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus and anointed Him with the power of preaching the good news of the love of the Father to humanity (Kadavil, A). This baptism shows that in Jesus all prophecy is completed and a new age begins. The beginning of Jesus' public ministry is also the end of the longtime of waiting. His baptism fulfills all the saving plan of God.

Brothers and sisters, the baptism of Jesus reminds us of our own identity and mission. It reminds us that we are God's children by adoption, brothers and sisters of Jesus, members of His Church, heirs of Heaven and temples of the Holy Spirit. We become incorporated into the Church, the Body of Christ and made sharers in the priesthood of Christ. We are required to become a living force for all mankind, lights shining in the world. We may be half-hearted now, but we take consolation from the Gospel challenge to begin again. We may not literally see any 'dove' or 'voice' from heaven; but we are not alone. Like Jesus, we have received the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of the Father to encourage us to move forward in our own mission. We are gifted and called to serve. Happy Sunday!

Our Lady of Victory and St. Malachy News

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.

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?

OLV Schedule for Lectors & Ushers

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>USHERS</u>
Jan. 17	Linda	Gail & Lyall
Jan. 24	Diane	Ken & Nancy
Jan. 31	Greg	Gail & Lyall

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



*W*HEN WE PUT
OUR PROBLEMS IN
GOD'S HANDS,
*P*HE PUTS HIS
PEACE IN OUR HEARTS.