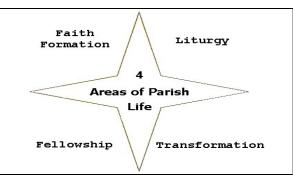


Our Lady of Victory Built 1948 490 Charles Street Gatineau, Québec J8L 2K5



4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 30-31, 2021



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

MASS CANCELED Celebration of the Eucharist MASS CANCELED

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

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

Please note that our website includes the latest information received from the diocese, as well as all parish bulletins. See: <a href="mailto:strain-received-

Last week, the Quebec government relaxed the lockdown regulations for places of worship. Our churches can now welcome a maximum of 10 people for an act of worship. The diocese has left each parish team to decide how to implement this directive.

The OLV & St. Malachy Wardens decided that it is not feasible to open our churches for only 10 people and will await further announcements following the February 8th deadline. You will be kept informed of any potential changes.

Virtual Mass Celebrations – January 9, 2021 to February 8, 2021

In a continuing effort to offer mass celebrations to our parishioners for the next four weeks, we have come to an agreement with St. Aloysius to join their Zoom mass at 11:00 am on Sundays. The following is the Zoom link:

ZOOM MEETING INVITATION - ST ALOYSIUS SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Meeting ID	910 8890 8876
Passcode	D8z45N

The link will be open 15 minutes before the celebration.

In addition, Mass will be live streamed on the St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish Community page on Facebook. Make sure to "like" and "follow" their Facebook page (see link below) to be able to view the live stream at 11am.

https://www.facebook.com/StAloysius-Gonzaga-Parish-Community-141740569252256

The live stream will be saved on the Facebook page to be viewed at any time.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if You were already there and I unite myself wholly to You.

Let me grow in love for You and for my brothers and sisters.

My trust is in you. Amen

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

Called to be Prophets

First Reading: Deuteronomy 18.15-20

<u>Psalm:</u> O that today you would listen to the voice of the Lord. Do not harden your hears.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7.32-35

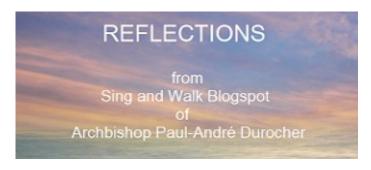
Gospel: Matthew 4.16

The common theme of today's readings is Divine authority as exercised by the prophets especially by Jesus in his teaching and healing ministry and the expectations of Christians in their prophetic call. The **first reading** tells us who a true prophet is: he is the one who speaks with authority because it is God who speaks through him. He helps people to come to know the will of God. Moses states it clearly that a prophet is not a clown or a strange person that has come down from heaven; he is a man, a brother to all those he has been sent to. He is not chosen by the people like the king, but he is called directly by God. The Lord tells him his plans and thoughts which he must communicate faithfully, without adding to or taking anything away from them. Moses, himself is an example of a true "prophet." A prophet is an intermediary between God and humans. Moses goes up the mountain, where he meets the Lord, listens to His voice, and then returns to report all he has heard. A "prophet" is one whom God uses as a kind of loudspeaker to let people know His word. When a prophet transmits what God told him faithfully, then his words must be accepted as the message of God; but if he spreads abroad his own ideas and views or invents things, then what he says is of no value and is not different from the talk of any other person.

In the **Gospel** of today, Jesus shows Himself to be a prophet *par excellence*. He does not do like other rabbis; He speaks with Divine authority. People immediately notice that Jesus speaks with authority and heals with Divine power. Jesus explains the Scriptures with complete confidence, and when questioned by people, He answers with authority. He comments on the Scriptures freely in an original way. Jesus uses His real (authentic) Divine authority to teach, empower, liberate, and heal others. Jesus confronts a man with unclean spirit. The man is frightened and shouts. Jesus gives orders in reply. The unclean spirit and the people are astonished because they realize that a prophet is among them. His word achieves what it says. The condition of the "possessed" man represents the situation of a person before meeting Christ: evil forces rule and subdue one and one cannot control them. The "devil" is not to be imagined as a big or small monster but as the whole of the forces that empty humans of their humanity (Armellini, F, vol.B p. 179). The "devilish" forces include racial and tribalistic feelings that drive us to hate, discriminate and commit injustices against those who differ from us; our unbridled cravings, and greed that pushes one to accumulate money just for oneself and family and uncontrolled sexual misbehaviour.

Brothers and sisters, we are also expected to be prophets following the example of Christ. We are called to be open "telephones," listening to the voice of God and transmitting to the world. We must be able to interpret the life-events of every person, family and nation in the light of the Gospel. We must be the persons that people consult to know the way of God (p.176). As Christians and prophets of our time, are we aware that we possess the same power and the same authority over all "unclean spirit"? Do we know that every time the word of the Gospel is proclaimed clearly, it is like an irresistible attack on some "devil"? Do we feel powerless in front of some "devil" that seems too strong to be confronted? Are we efficient "telephones", or are our lives always "down"? Do we allow our pride, selfishness, envy and greed stand in our way of, and prevent us from, being the true "prophets" we are called to be? Our world is in need of true prophets. If people seek out the message of salvation from the wrong people, is it not because we Christians fail to be "prophets"? Are our communities prophetic only in words, or do they continue the fight that Jesus started against all that enslaves humanity? We have a great treasure in God's word. We must imbibe it; let it take flesh in us, so that through us God can make all things new. Happy Sunday!

Archbishop Durocher Reflections



To access the Archbishop's daily reflections, go to the following link: http://singandwalk.blogspot.com/ or follow him on his Facebook page, Mgr Paul-André Durocher.

Our Lady of Victory and St. Malachy News

<u>Prayers and Sympathy:</u> Pray for the repose of the soul of Iris Delcourt (mother to Alan) whose funeral was on January 27 in Mayo. Our sympathy and prayers are with her family and friends during this time of loss.

<u>Church Openings:</u> Will advise all our parishioners when we have received word from the Diocese when churches can be opened again.

Funerals: Can proceed with 25 people during the Covid19 pandemic. Also the Covid-19 protocols will be followed.

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

<u>On-Going Collections:</u> During the confinement, parishioners are encouraged to continue to save used postage stamps, egg cartons, pop tabs and new and used candles. Once churches reopen, we can resume these collections.

SMILE

<u>Pandemic Game:</u> My husband purchased a world map and then gave me a dart and said, "Throw this and wherever it lands - that's where I'm taking you **when** this pandemic ends." Turns out, we're spending two weeks behind the fridge.