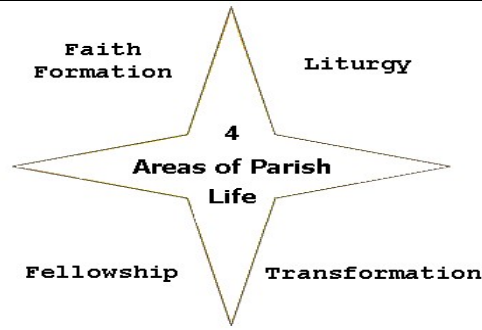




Our Lady of Victory
Built 1948
 490 Charles Street
 Gatineau, Québec
 J8L 2K5



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

6th SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 13-14, 2021

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
Telephone (819) 986-3763
Website www.stmalachyolv.com



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: stmalachyolv.com

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	924 6764 7686
Passcode	cQxkL8

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.*

ASH WEDNESDAY

On Ash Wednesday, February 17th we start our 40-day trek to Easter. We can mark the journey with the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving which are depicted on the banners.

On Ash Wednesday, there will be a mass at St. Aloysius at 7:00 pm and will be streamed online. Father Albanus has suggested that families are enjoined to provide their “ashes” themselves and find intelligible ways to live out repentance and belief in the Gospel which the ashes symbolize. Use your ZOOM link

ZOOM MEETING INVITATION - ST ALOYSIUS SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Meeting ID	962 0288 5080
Passcode	7jkmHR

The link will be open 15 minutes before the celebration.

Our Lady of Victory and St. Malachy News

Contact Father: Should you need to talk to Father Albanus, please call him at 819-663-5244.

Income Tax Receipts: Both parishes will issue out receipts in early 2021 for mass intentions, weekly envelopes and other donations.

Prayer for our Priests as they exercise their ministry during this time of the Coronavirus COVID-19

Eternal God, be with our priests this day as they seek to minister to your people. May you be a guiding and protective presence with them as they bring the consolation and hope of Your word and the grace and nourishment of Eucharist to those entrusted into their care. Grant them the strength of mind and body, keep them safe to do your will, and give them the courage and peace to face each day with trust and confidence in You. Into your hands O God, we commend them; fill them with your grace and healing. **Amen.**

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

He Heals Our Leprosy



First Reading: **Leviticus 13,1-2, 45-46**
Psalm: **O You are my refuge, Lord; with deliverance you surround me**
Second Reading: **1 Corinthians 10-31 – 11.1**
Gospel: **Mark 1.40-45**

Today's readings continue the teaching on our call. There is emphasis today on our call to be pure and holy. We don't become holy simply by some ritual observances. We become holy by confessing our sins to God and offering our lives for God's glory and by sharing God's love with everyone around us without discrimination on the basis of colour, race, culture, religion, life style or social status. The book of Leviticus always speaks of God calling His chosen people to holiness and purity. Thus, the passage of today teaches the theme of freedom from bodily and ritual impurity as a sign of internal holiness. This freedom is symbolized by precautions against contracting leprosy given in the first reading and the healing of the leper described today's Gospel.

The **first reading** shows how the ancient Jews treated lepers and gives rules for the segregation of lepers. Lepers were considered impure and were expelled from the communities for fear of contamination. All these treatments served as public health precautions. But more importantly, the lepers were considered by them as accursed by God because of their sins and should be shunned by the people. The responsorial psalm (Ps.32) teaches us that we become holy by confessing our sins and being reconciled with God every day. *'I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord, and you forgave the guilt of my sin'* is a teaching on reconciliation, covering the meaning of the spiritual leprosy of sin and shows us how we are forgiven by a sacramental encounter with God.

The **Gospel** describes the healing of a leper by Jesus, something that the first reading prepares us for. Jesus freed him from both the disease of leprosy and the unjust and inhuman social isolation and ostracism to which lepers were subjected. Unlike the people of His time, Jesus dramatically identified Himself with the sufferer in the total rejection and isolation waiting for him. The irony is that Jesus risked becoming "unclean" Himself, in order to make the leper clean just as He stretched out His hands on the cross to make us whole. Jesus touched the leper thus bridging the gap between what is clean and what is unclean, identifying Himself with all lepers, with all who are ritually or socially unclean and isolated and with all of us sinners who are spiritually unclean and have no way to change our condition save through His sacrifice and mercy. He thus became "unclean" in the eyes of the law that we might be made clean. He allowed himself to be rejected by His people so that those who are separated from God might return to Him and be healed.

Brethren, we need to trust in the mercy of our forgiving God. He assures us that our sins are forgiven and that we are clean. He forgives us and makes us spiritually clean from the spiritual leprosy of sins when we repent of our sins. He is a God of love who waits patiently for us, His children. He only asks us to seek for forgiveness and have repentant hearts. The words of absolution in the sacrament of reconciliation echo that *your sins are forgiven, and you are clean!* We need to pull down the walls that separate us from others and build bridges of loving relationship. We are urged to welcome the outcasts and untouchables of our society and open our hearts and minds to those outside the pale of society if we are going to truly follow Jesus. This is what St. Paul is speaking about in the **second reading** when he says *"Give no offence to Jews or to Greeks...."* The scorning and banning of lepers has now disappeared from most cultures. But, we still have in our communities, people who, because of their characters, defects or errors, are looked upon and rejected as "lepers." God's loving hands must reach out to them through us. They are not to be objects of scorn, but potential reservoir of God's mercy for us. Happy Sunday!