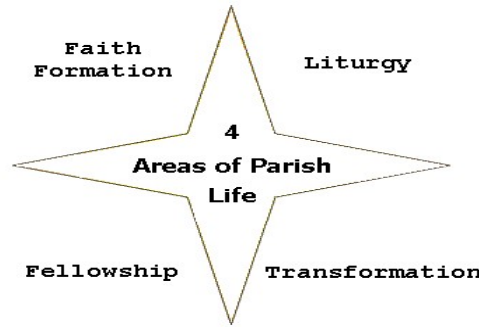




Our Lady of Victory
Built 1948
 490 Charles Street
 Gatineau, Québec
 J8L 2K5



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

4th SUNDAY of LENT
MARCH 13-14, 2021

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday 4:30 p.m.

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

MASSES

Saturday	Mar. 20 th	St. Malachy @ 4:30 p.m.	Pearl French (10th ann) by The Family James Gaspar by Cheryl & Peter Cameron
Sunday	Mar. 21 st	OLV @ 9:00 a.m.	Jean Tansley by Monique, Ken & Family Denis Roy (30th ann) by Val, Lewis & Family Clifford Daly by Susan & Junior Lemieux

WEEKLY RECEIPTS		OLV	ST. MALACHY
OLV - Feb. 23 rd , 2021 Sunday Offering/St. Malachy - Jan-Feb-Mar 7 th		\$ 652.00	\$ 1,310.00
OLV - Feb. 23 rd , 2021 Support/St. Malachy - Jan-Feb-Mar 7 th		164.00	260.00
OLV - Feb. 23 rd , 2021 Fuel/St. Malachy - Jan-Feb-Mar 7 th		35.00	195.00
St. Malachy - Jan-Feb-Mar 7 th - Donation			820.00

Thank you for your contributions

New Protocols for Mass Celebrations: (Dated March 11, 2021)

Last week, the provincial government made adjustments to the protocol for places of worship. There are three key elements that impact on the celebration of mass that have been provided to us by the diocese. **These apply to both OLV & St. Malachy.**

1. The number of people attending the Sunday celebration of mass is no longer limited to 25. However, the number of individuals in attendance is constrained by the dimensions of the church. **There is a continuing need to advise the Secretary if you plan to attend mass at OLV only.**
2. **Masks** – The Office of Public Health has mandated that wearing a procedural mask is mandatory at all times. A procedural mask is a blue and white tri-fold mask commonly used in healthcare settings. If you do not have a procedural mask when you arrive for the celebration, one will be provided for you at the door. **Cloth masks will no longer be permitted for mass celebrations.**
3. **Communion** – Movement of the faithful in the church is prohibited during the celebration, except for liturgical ministers. For communion, Fr. Albanus will bring the Eucharist to you in your pew. If you have a PIX, the Eucharist will be included at the same time.

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

God So Loved the World

First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36.14-17a, 19-23
Psalm: Let my tongue cling to my mouth if I do not remember you!
Second Reading: Ephesians 2.4-10
Gospel: John 3.14-21

Fourth Sunday of Lent is referred to as **Laetare** (Rejoice) Sunday taken from the first words of today's liturgy introit. It is in the middle of Lenten period and as in Advent, this Sunday reminds us of the Event we look forward to at the end of the penitential season. The Church celebrates today with a sentiment of joy in anticipation of the Resurrection. The readings teach us that our salvation is the free gift of a merciful God given to us in Jesus, His Son. They emphasize God's mercy and compassion and remind us of the great love, kindness and grace extended to us in Christ. The **first reading** speaks about the compassion and patience of God. This reading from 2nd Chronicles contains the lament about the chosen people. It shows how the infidelities of the people caused them to lose the Temple and their homeland, and how God arranged through the Persian King to return them to their homeland and to help them rebuild His Temple there. God allowed Cyrus the Great, a pagan conqueror, to become an instrument of His mercy and salvation for His Chosen People who were exiled in Babylon. Thus, the history of love between God and human beings never ends in condemnation. Like the unfaithful people of Israel in this reading, as soon as people leave God, they find themselves in trouble. But there is no prison or dark place that cannot be reached by God. No chains can resist the strength of His all-powerful love.

The **second reading** echoes the same theme as the first reading. Paul's letter to the Ephesians reminds us to focus on the mystery of salvation as a gift to sinners. Although we don't deserve anything from God on our own merits, God chose to love, save and give life to us because of His great mercy and love. Salvation is not given to people because of their merits; it is a gratuitous gift from the Father. All our goodness, such as it may be, is His goodness shining through us. Though we are saved 'through faith', this faith itself is the gift of God. Today's **Gospel** has a parallel theme with more emphasis: Jesus, the Son of God, became the agent of God's salvation. It recalls a dramatic event that took place during the crossing of the desert at the time of the Exodus (Num.21:4-9). Nichodemus learns that, like Moses' bronze serpent, Jesus too must be 'lifted up', and that the act of His being 'lifted up' will also bring about salvation. The 'lifting up' here was a contemporary euphemism for 'being crucified' (see also Jn.8:28; 12:32-34). The reference in this Gospel periscope specifically foreshadows the crucifixion of Jesus who carried with Him the burden of the sins of the world. When humans turn their thoughts to the crucified Savior and believe in Him, they too will find eternal life.

The rabbis (referring to the Exodus event) used to teach that the Jews were healed, not because they looked up at the serpent, but because they raised their hearts to God. The Savior was the Lord, not the bronze serpent (Wis. 16:7). Jesus makes reference to this passage in the Gospel and states that it is the symbol of what is to happen to Him. He will also be lifted up on the cross, and all who will look up at Him will be saved. Thus, just as the cross was the way to glory for Jesus, so it is for us. It is an unchangeable law of human life, however, that without the cross, there is no crown. To look at Jesus 'lifted up' here therefore, means to 'believe in Him', that is, to accept in faith the message that addresses to all of us from the cross "*God so loved the world...*" is the summary of the Gospel message of salvation through Jesus Christ. It is the very essence of the Gospel. It tells us that God takes the initiative in all salvation because of His love for humanity.

St. Augustine puts it even more emphatically that 'God loves each one of us as if there were only one of us to love.' The love of God is universal. His motive is love and His objective is salvation. Those who actually receive eternal life must believe in the Son and walk according to His teaching. That means walking in the Light. Opposing Christ's teaching means opposing Christ Himself, hence walking in darkness. There are many dark corners in our world. Our Lord wants us to stop hiding our sin in the dark and demands that we expose every dark corner to His Light of life. His Light will 'enlighten' us and clean our dirt (sin) away. Lent is the acceptable time, the time of salvation!

Happy Sunday!

OLV Schedule for Lectors & Ushers

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>USHERS</u>
March 21 st	Virginia	Gail & Lyall
March 28 th	Greg	Ken & Nancy

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



Share Love, Share Lent: The passion of youth!

Did you know that **Development and Peace** has an active youth movement from coast to coast?

This week, the *Share Love, Share Lent* campaign celebrates the young and the key role they play in our organization. From their primary school days and well into adulthood, many young people remain deeply committed to social justice issues. Through our activities and campaigns, they make their voices heard across Canada and in the Global South. One of the annual activities is a 25-hour THINKfast.

Next Sunday is Solidarity Sunday. Show your support by donating generously with your parish collection envelope. You can make a cash or cheque donation to the parish, clearly marked on your envelope that it is for **Development and Peace**. OR, you can make an online donation directly, at the following link:

<https://www.devp.org/en/campaign/sharelove>

Our Lady of Victory and St. Malachy News

Sympathy and Prayers: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Allen Teske (husband of Carole) whose funeral was on March 3rd in Mayo. Our sympathy and prayers are with his family and friends at this time of loss.

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

Easter Flowers at OLV: As is our custom both at Christmas and Easter, parishioners are provided with an opportunity to donate towards the purchase of flowers to beautify our church on these special occasions. To facilitate these donations, you will find a special envelope inserted in the Bulletin. Tax receipts are available for these donations. To obtain a tax receipt, if you are an envelope holder, please indicate your number on the envelope. If not, please indicate your mailing address. As always, thank you for your support.

St. Malachy masses: Saturday masses at 4:30 p.m. will continue for the month of March.

Egg Cartons Needed at the Food Bank - 🍳🍳🍳

La Mie de l'Entraide has posted the following message on their Facebook page:

Every week, we receive several cases of fresh eggs to redistribute to those in need. We therefore need empty egg cartons to provide a safe journey for our eggs. Thank you for dropping them off at 127 Joseph Street.

You can also leave your empty egg cartons in the box at the entrance to the church.