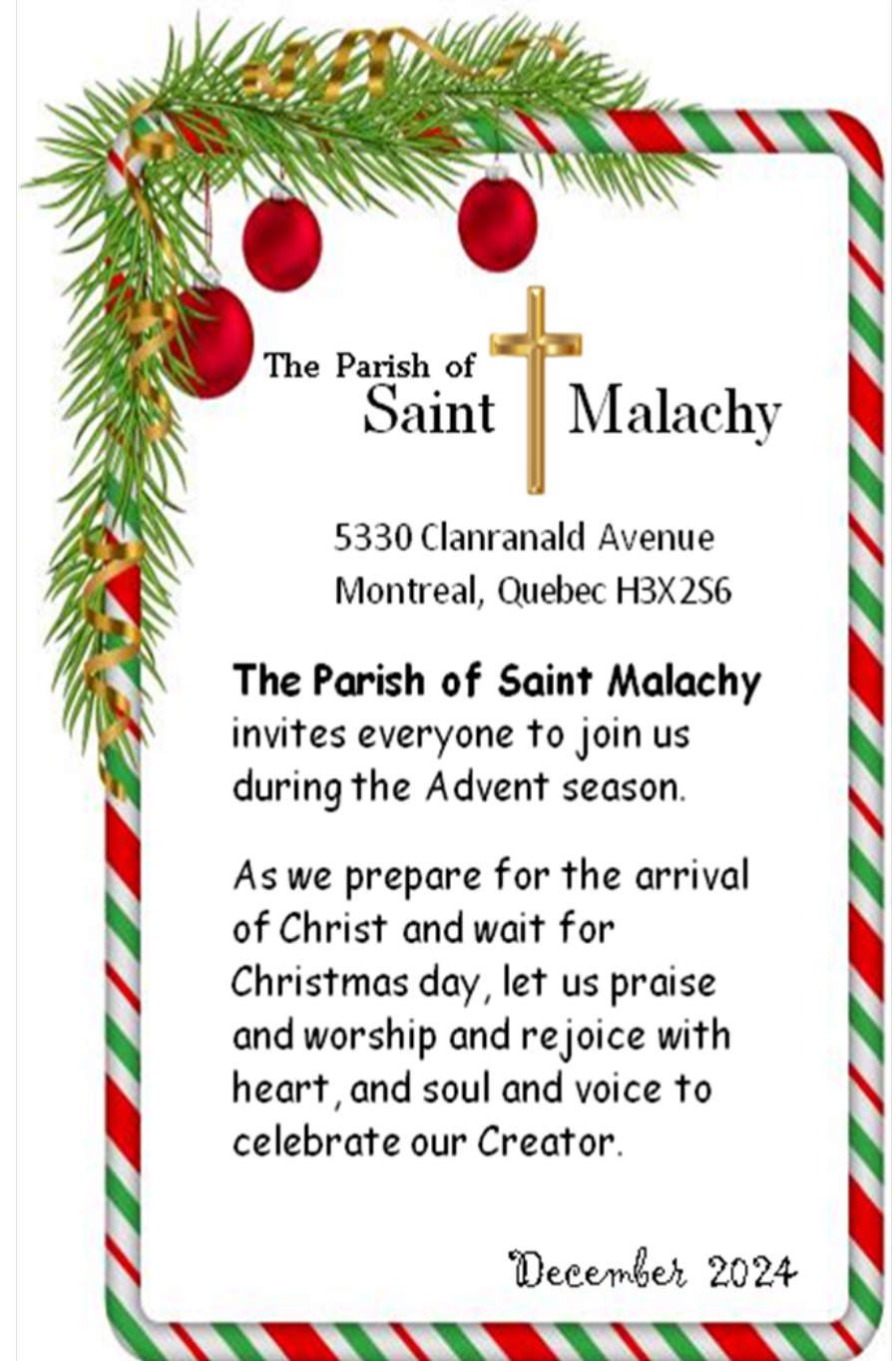


ADVENT RETREAT PREACHING

Sunday, 15 December 2024

Time 6:30 p.m.

Rev. Fr. Jomon Kalladhantiyil
of Saint Joseph Oratory



Come Join Us
9 days novena of 7:00 p.m. evening Masses



SIMBANG Gabi, is a Filipino Christmas tradition. It literally means “evening or night Mass.” As a devotional practice of the novena—a series of nine evening Masses—celebrated during Advents, in preparation for Christmas Day. It begins on December 16 (nine days before Christmas) and it ends on Christmas Eve (December 24). It began as a way of accompanying Mary symbolically in prayer through the 9 months of her pregnancy.

This tradition was introduced by the Spanish friars specifically to allow farmers to hear mass, as early as 4:00 in the morning, before going to the fields. Another name for **SIMBANG Gabi** is *Misa de Gallo*, Spanish for “Mass of the Rooster,” because the rooster would crow about the time they left home.

In celebration of **Simbang Gabi**—which is a preparation for Christmas—most churches are decorated with colorful lights and beautiful “parol” lanterns to welcome the churchgoers. The parol (farol in Spanish) or star lantern, symbolizes the star of Bethlehem, the victory of light over darkness as well as hope and goodwill, and also the shared expression of faith during the Christmas season. In addition, a Nativity Scene is displayed in preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ on Christmas Day.

Simbang Gabi is not just a tradition that is celebrated because we need to do so. It is a way for us to worship and praise God. It is the spiritual preparation for Christmas, in commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ. For many, observing **Simbang Gabi** is a way of offering sacrifice and requesting blessings from the Lord, as they believe that if one completes nine dawn masses, their wishes will be granted.

Mass Schedule / Misa de Gallo

December 15 Sunday	7:00 p.m.	Advent preaching 6:30 p.m. Legion of Mary
December 16 Monday	7:00 p.m.	Daughters of Isabella & Knights of Columbus
December 17 Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	The Altar Servers
December 18 Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Frederick's 11:00 a.m. Choir, Lady of Peñafrancia & Wardens
December 19 Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Couples for Christ
December 20 Friday	7:00 p.m.	Faith First & El Shaddai
December 21 Saturday	7:00 p.m.	Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers
December 22 Sunday	7:00 p.m.	Nanding's 4:30 p.m. Choir & The Children's Choir
December 23 Monday	7:00 p.m.	Decoration Group & Social Committee



CHRISTMAS EVE MASS	NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS
Tuesday 24 December 2024 7:00 p.m. Children's Mass 9:00 p.m. Holy Mass	Tuesday 31 December 2024 4:00 p.m. Rosary & Benediction 4:30 p.m. Holy Mass
CHRISTMAS DAY MASS	NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS
Wednesday December 25, 2024 11:00 a.m. Holy Mass	Wednesday January 1, 2025 Holy Mass at 11:00 a.m.