

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 4, 2016

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

	Mon.	Dec. 5	8:00 am	Fr. Vincent A. Lancellotti
	Tues.	Dec..6	8:00 am	Martha J. Flanigan
	Wed.	Dec. 7	8:00 am	Mary Fitzpatrick
Pine Plains	“	“	7:00 pm	James V. & Elizabeth A. Moriarty
	Thurs.	Dec. 8	8:00 am	Rudy & Mary Freudig
	“	“	7:00 pm	Lillian McEnroe
	Fri.	Dec. 9	8:00 am	Louis W. Imperato
	Sat.	Dec. 10	8:00 am	Barbara & Ray McEnroe
			4:30 pm	William McEnroe & Fay Family

Pine Plains	Sun	Dec. 11	8:00 am	Mary Drohosky
			10:45 am	People of the Parish

“ACCOUNTABILITY ”

Dear Friends:

I just read a short article on accountability. Accountability is often touted as a political concept, with people clamoring for public officials to be held accountable for their performance in office. This obviously means that the public officials have to perform well or be removed from office.

But accountability applies to more than just political office. Accountability applies to everyone – including me!

This article points out that we can fall into the weakness of “externalizing” problems. When things go wrong, we look beyond ourselves and find fault with others.

Life is filled with traps that let people avoid personal accountability. It’s easy to make excuses, play the victim, or feel a sense of entitlement. In the job of a priest and pastor, often we blame the people, or blame society, or blame the Archdiocese. Notice how easy it is to blame someone else, and how hard it is to look at yourself.

But this common practice is useless. We expend so much energy pointing out the blame on somebody or something, without taking time to look at where we are at fault. That’s where accountability comes in.

Accountability forces us to look carefully at what we do, and how we can do it better. It refuses to waste time on blaming others, hoping that others change or even trying to force others to change – these things drive people apart.

Don’t tell my brother, but for much of his life he struggled in every job. It was always this manager, this administrator, this co-worker, or this policy. I hate to say it, but it was never him. (Again, don’t tell him I told you this). He never seemed to be happy.

And that’s the point – if we really want to be happy, we need to take ownership of our problems, and stop blaming them on someone else.

Fr. Wilson

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FEAST DAY - Thursday, December 8th, is the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Our Mass schedule is as follows:

Wed. (12/7) 7 pm in Pine Plains Thurs. (12/8) 8 am in Amenia Thurs. (12/8) 7 pm in Amenia

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH : Ralph Cummings, Ann Bida, Gerhard Herron, Margaret Wilcox, Janet Stiles, Evan Ciovacco, Lydia Casey, Evelyn Bouffard, Mark Hamm, Grover Williams, Stephanie Merenda, Carol Wilson, Dawn Hazel Burrows, Rudy Eschbach, Billy Carroll, Jordana Bell, Lori DeLucca, Amanda Carneski, Baby James Ryan Farrell, Linda Sartori, Helen McGhee, Richard & Mary Ann Valinsk, Mary Murphy Adamitis, Andrea Scholmeyer, Winifred Capowski, Arthur Nadeau, Barbara Moissonnier, Nina Williams, Judy Carroll, LuAnn Ballantine, Frank D'Agostino, Michael Kain, Delores DeMarinis, Shirley Remsburger, Teresa Schell, Susan Moody, Danny Hagerty, Sonja Kelly, Jack Silvernale, Mike Butts and Mary Ann Mullen, John Kemmerer, Jr., Alan Carroll, Erin D-Elia, Linda Staab, Father John Durkin, Daisy Abruzzo, Richard Piccoli, Laura Galdiero, Bernard Heaney, Joseph Scutieri, Eileen Murphy Ehlers and Charlie Guarieri.

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MEN'S GROUP - The Men's Group will meet on Monday, December 5th, at 6:45 pm in the Chapel of Immaculate Conception Church. New Members are welcome.

CHRISTMAS MINISTRY SCHEDULE - If you haven't already signed up to serve as a Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Altar Server or Usher at the Christmas Masses, please consider placing your name on the list in the Sacristy. Your ministry is very important to our Christmas Liturgy.

THE LIVING NATIVITY - Our Annual Living Nativity will be held on Sunday, December 11th following the 10:45 am Mass. There will be animals, light refreshments, a bake sale, a cash and carry table, and craft vendors. Please plan on joining us and bring a friend!

CALLING ALL BAKERS - There is a sign-up sheet in the back of Church for those willing to bake for the "Bake Sale" at the Living Nativity on December 11th. We are counting on your support to make this fundraiser a success. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTIONS

*To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart.
To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect.*

PINE PLAINS FOOD LOCKER – The food locker item needed for December is cereal (hot or cold). Items can be left in the basket under the table at the top of the stairs.

SPIRITUAL WORK OF MERCY - It is good every once in a while to be reminded that the Church is a house of prayer and we should try to be more quiet before and after Mass. I thank you for your cooperation.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, November 26-27, 2016, we collected \$3,899.50 in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$826.50 for Periodic Literature. I am so very thankful for your continuing generosity and steadfast commitment to the Church. I pray that God will continue to bless you and your families.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY - Please keep the following service men and their families in your prayers: Timothy Walsh, Joshua O'Hara, Connor Washburn, Sam Kent, Jordan Paraszti, Gavin Carroll, Richard C. Belliveau, Jimmy Darnell, Mike Mazza and Nathan Tong.

MEANING OF ADVENT WREATH - The 2nd Sunday of Advent symbolizes Faith with the "Bethlehem Candle" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

Sanctuary Light †

*The Sanctuary Light which will burn this week
at Immaculate Conception Church
was donated by Kathryn Garzetta
In Loving Memory of Salvatore Garzetta*