## SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD JANUARY 8, 2017

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:				
	Mon.	Jan. 9	8:00 am	Anna McEnroe Costine
	Tues.	Jan.10	8:00 am	Frieda & Henry Eckardt
	Wed.	Jan. 11	8:00 am	Andrea Schollmeyer
	Thurs.	Jan. 12	8:00 am	NO MASS
	Fri.	Jan. 13	8:00 am	Fr. Vincent A. Lancellotti
Pine Plains	"	"	12 noon	Frances Rossi (Living)
	Sat.	Jan. 14	8:00 am	Micha K. Carroll
			4:30 pm	Lawrence C. Hardisty, Jr.
Pine Plains	Sun	Jan. 15	8:00 am 10:45 am	People of the Parish Lawrence McEnroe, Sr.

## "CHRISTIAN UNITY"

## Dear Friends:

As we enter into 2017, many of us make resolutions. We want to lose weight, we want to stop cursing, we want to be a nicer person. These are good things, and I support all of you in whatever improvements you want to make in your life.

But we all want, I think, to treat people better, especially people who are different than us. That desire goes back to the fundamental commandment from Jesus Christ himself: to treat our neighbors the same way we would want to be treated.

This way of behaving, this "way of life," that Jesus called us to, prompts us to be very considerate of those of different beliefs. When we look at our protestant brothers and sisters, we must always be true to the law of love. This comes into more focus during the upcoming "Week of Christian Unity" in the month January. I enthusiastically invite you to celebrate with us a special night of prayer in our own St. Anthony's parish in Pine Plains on January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm, a Sunday night. There we will pray with representatives of different Christian Churches in Pine Plains, honoring our common faith in Jesus Christ our Savior.

When I was first ordained in 1990, I began work with other churches, since I was a former protestant. I was president of Ramapo Ecumenical Ministries in Suffern, New York for a few years. I worked with the Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialogue Committee in the Archdiocese for several years. I have always thought that working with other Christian Churches are an important part of being a priest.

Some progress has been made, but many problems still remain. There have been, needless to say, many terrible conflicts in the past. The history of Catholic-Protestant relations is not a happy one. But in the last 50 or so years, relations have improved. Let us pray for better relations in the future. Please come and join us on Sunday, 7 pm on January 15<sup>th</sup> in St. Anthony's to do that together.

## Fr. Wilson

**CONFESSION** - Confession is available every Saturday afternoon from 3:45 pm to 4:15 pm at Immaculate Conception in Amenia. Reconciliation is a sacrament of healing by which we receive God's merciful forgiveness for our personal sins and experience the powerful love of God.

**NEWLY BAPTIZED** - Alyssa Marie Manley, daughter of Keith Manley and Karinna Kelly, was baptized on Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia. We pray that Our Lord, Jesus Christ, will look lovingly on this child, watch over her and fill her with peace and joy.

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, Charlie Guarnieri and Al Blackburn.

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**ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY** - The next Altar Rosary Society meeting will be held on Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm in the Chapel of Immaculate Conception.. All are welcome to join us in praying the Rosary.

**EXPERIENCE GOD IN A NEW WAY** - Let God bathe you in His healing light during these dark months of winter. You are invited to Morning Prayer & Guided Meditation, Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at St. Anthony's in Pine Plains.

<u>VINE & BRANCHES</u> - The next food distribution will be on Saturday, January 21, 2017 at 10 am in our gym. We are especially in need of shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, Kleenex, bath soap and toilet paper.

**THE OTHER WISE MAN** - The Story of the Other Wise Man is a short novel or long short story by Henry van Dyke. It was initially published in 1895 and has been reprinted many times. Van Dyke invents a fourth wise man, Artaban, who trades his belongings for gifts for "the promised one" foretold by prophets: a sapphire, a ruby and a pearl. Artaban plans to give the jewels to the infant after meeting up with his companions Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar, who have gold, frankincense and myrrh. But he misses the connection after he stops to nurse a dying man, and later on, must sell one of his treasures in order to buy the camels and supplies necessary for the trip. He continues his journey but arrives in Bethlehem too late to see the child, whose parents fled to Egypt. He uses the ruby to ransom a child whom King Herod had ordered slain. He then travels to Egypt and many other countries, searching for Jesus for many years and performing acts of charity along the way. After 33 years Artaban is still a pilgrim and seeker after light. Artaban arrives in Jerusalem in time for the crucifixion of Jesus. He spent his last treasure, the pearl, to ransom a young woman from being sold into slavery. He is then struck in the temple by a falling roof tile and is about to die, having failed in his quest, and yet he knew that he did the best he could. Artaban hears a faint voice saying: "Verily I say unto thee, Inasmuch as thou hast done it unto one of the least of my brethren, thou hast done it unto me," and he dies in a calm radiance of wonder and joy. His treasures were accepted, and the Other Wise Man found his King. May we find hope, light and life in the smallest acts of love and compassion and remember the journey is the answer.

BUSES FOR MARCH FOR LIFE JAN. 27, 2017: The March for Life in Washington D.C. is scheduled for Friday, January 27, 2017. For reservations and/or information contact Rich 297-7930 for the St. Mary's bus and George Morton 226-6896 for the St. Columba's bus. Prices for adults is \$35.00 and for students is \$25.00. These two buses will leave St. Columba Church at 5:00 am after a 4:30 am Mass on January 27, 2017. All reservations and payments required by January 20, 2017.

<u>SUNDAY COLLECTION</u> - Last weekend, December 31, 2016-January 1, 2017, we collected \$3,053.85. in our Regular Sunday Collection, \$1,747.00 for the Solemnity of Mary and \$1,000 in additional Christmas Offerings. 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.