

# THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

## January 7, 2018

### PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

|                    |        |         |          |                               |
|--------------------|--------|---------|----------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Amenia</b>      | Mon.   | Jan. 8  | 8:00 am  | Laura Galdiero                |
| “                  | Tues.  | Jan. 9  | 8:00 am  | Anna McEnroe Costine          |
| “                  | Wed.   | Jan. 10 | 8:00 am  | Ray Proper, Sr.               |
| “                  | Thurs. | Jan. 11 | 8:00 am  | NO MASS                       |
| “                  | Fri.   | Jan. 12 | 8:00 am  | Frieda & Henry Eckardt        |
| <b>Pine Plains</b> | “      | “       | 12 noon  | James V. & Elizabeth Moriarty |
| <b>Amenia</b>      | Sat.   | Jan. 13 | 8:00 am  | Patricia Hinck                |
| “                  | “      | “       | 4:30 pm  | Ralph Cummings                |
| -----              |        |         |          |                               |
| <b>Pine Plains</b> | Sun    | Jan. 14 | 8:00 am  | People of the Parish          |
| <b>Amenia</b>      | “      | “       | 10:45 am | Ann Bida                      |

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### “THANKFULNESS”

*Dear Friends:*

*Perhaps many of you are tired of me repeating my emphasis on being thankful. That reminds me years ago when I was with an Italian seminarian, who told me “You Americans say thank you too much.” I feel we don’t say it enough.*

*I repeat over and over again that being thankful is part and parcel of the Christian life. I feel that thankfulness isn’t just an attitude or a choice – thankfulness should be part of our very being. We should be thankful the same way we should breathe: without even thinking!*

*And so I give thanks for those who have helped us in the past year. First I start with those who help at Mass: the Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Ushers and Lectors. Also we can’t forget the Choir and our organist Regina Syversen, who has had her daughter, Anthonette, cover for her during her illness.*

*Then we go to our office, where Denise and Hillary have been so important in the success of our parish. What would I do without them? And Larry, who helps with our maintenance.*

*I am so grateful for Virginia Bida, our Religious Education Coordinator, and also for all of the volunteer teachers in our program. They do a great job every week.*

*Thanks to Sr. Jean for her help and to those who lead morning prayer in Pine Plains.*

*There are other volunteers as well: our parish council, and the folks who help set-up for Mass in Amenia and in Pine Plains. Thanks also to our Deacon, David Weinstein, who is very lucky to be in Florida at this time.*

*Thank you also for those who give so many hours in running the Thrift Shop and helping with the Food Pantry. They both help the poor and needy of our area; our Thrift Shop also is a great fundraiser.*

*Finally, thanks to all of you who attend Mass faithfully in Amenia and Pine Plains. It is so important that you understand that we will never take you for granted. And to all who I may have forgotten: Thank you to you also!*

*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.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH :** 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, Jordana Bell, Lori DeLucca, Amanda Carneski, Linda Sartori, Helen McGhee, Mary Murphy Adamitis, Winifred Capowski, Arthur Nadeau, Jeff Moissonnier, LuAnn Ballantine, Frank D'Agostino, Michael Kain, Shirley Remsburger, Susan Moody, Danny Hagerty, Sonja Kelly, Jack Silvernale, Mike Butts and Mary Ann Mullen, Alan Carroll, Erin D'Elia, Richard Piccoli, Eileen Murphy Ehlers, Dominic Nannetti, Santino Delfino, Luz Pelkey, Averie Burke, Ricky McGhee, John Daubman, Mary Fitzgerald Roth, Kathryn Garzetta, Joseph Licurse, Barb King, Delora Brooks, June Heckelman, Baby Hans Pedersen, Teresa Pelkey, Renee & Al Cobuzzi, Joanne Balek, Frances Anello, Colton Culligan and Irene Smith.

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**ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY** - The Altar Rosary Society will meet on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm in the Chapel of Immaculate Conception Church. New members are most welcome.

**CHRISTMAS IS OUR EPIPHANY** - "Epiphany" is defined as a sudden revelation or insight. The celebration we call "The Epiphany" commemorates the moment when three foreign kings visited the newborn Jesus and experienced the revelation that He was a divine king.

The visit of the Magi was prophesied in the Old Testament. *"The kings of Tarshish and the Islands shall offer gifts, the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute. All kings shall pay Him homage, all nations shall serve Him"* (Psalm 72:10-11). *"Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the Lord."* (Isaiah 60:6). St. Matthew recorded that they brought three gifts:

Gold – the gift for a king, Frankincense – the gift for a priest, and Myrrh – a burial ointment.

The kings witnessed to the presence of the Messiah on Earth, and the fulfillment of God's promise of a Savior. Christmas is our reminder that God is always faithful. Christmas is our epiphany into God's eternal love.

**PINE PLAINS COUNCIL OF CHURCHES** - The Pine Plains Council of Churches will host a Unity Prayer Service on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, at 4 pm at the Pine Plains Presbyterian Church located on Church Street. Please join in feeling the "oneness" with our fellow Christian neighbors as we pray for continued unity in Christ.

**ONE MINUTE MEDITATION** - Blessed are the peacemakers. The world sure could use more peacemakers. The key to becoming one is to practice forgiveness and offer peace. That way everyone around us will feel the love of Christ.

**SUNDAY COLLECTION** - Last weekend, December 30-31, 2017, we collected \$5,848.88 in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$1,544 for the Solemnity of Mary. We also received an additional \$1,175. for Christmas. I thank you for your generosity and steadfast commitment to our Church and I pray that God will continue to bless you and your families.

**PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES:** . Timothy Walsh, Joshua O'Hara, Connor Washburn, Sam Kent, Jordan Paraszti, Gavin Carroll, Richard C. Belliveau, Jimmy Darnell, Mike Mazza, Nathan Tong, Mark Hall, Michael Pomeisl and Tyler Jasmin. Please keep our servicemen and their families in your prayers.

† **Sanctuary Light** †

*The Sanctuary Light which will burn this week  
at Immaculate Conception Church  
was donated by Ritchie's Deli  
In Memory of Ray Proper, Sr.*