

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 9, 2018

### PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

<b>Amenia</b>	Mon.	Dec. 10	8:00 am	Fay Family
"	Tues.	Dec. 11	8:00 am	Laszlo Paraszti
"	Wed.	Dec. 12	8:00 am	Patrick Fay Family ( <i>Living</i> )
"	Thurs.	Dec. 13	8:00 am	NO MASS
"	Fri.	Dec. 14	8:00 am	Rudy Eschbach
<b>Pine Plains</b>	"	"	12 noon	Emmie Pilch
<b>Amenia</b>	Sat.	Dec. 15	8:00 am	Marion O'Brien
"	"	"	4:30 pm	Lawrence C. Hardisty, Jr.
<b>Pine Plains</b>	Sun	Dec. 16	8:00 am	People of the Parish
<b>Amenia</b>	"	"	10:45 am	Charles Goggins

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### "VINE & BRANCHES"

Dear Friends:

*We were very proud here at Immaculate Conception-St. Anthony's Parish when we were named "Citizen of the Year" by the Amenia Town Board for our work with the Vine & Branches Food Pantry. A special thanks to Rosanna Hamm for representing us and accepting the honor. Mrs. Hamm is a trustee at our parish and also one of our volunteers at the food pantry.*

*The food pantry here serves on an average of 35 families (100 people) every third Saturday in our gym in the Parish Center. A special thank you to all the volunteers that make this possible. One added benefit is that we have our confirmation students come to help, giving them valuable experience in serving the poor.*

*I personally help out every Saturday and I must say it can be a lot of work. Some Saturday mornings I really would rather take a rest but I realize that some very important people are depending on us.*

*In case you didn't know, we provide non-perishable foods (cereal, pasta sauce, soup, canned vegetables, tuna, etc.) and some additional items (orange juice, cheese). With the help of outside agencies (North East Community Service, Long Table Farm), we sometimes are able to provide fresh vegetables, fruit, milk and eggs.*

*It is definitely a positive experience. We have direct contact with the people we serve, being able to talk with them and experience their joy at being given food. I am also able to express God's love by blessing them and telling them that God is always with them.*

*Pope Francis has always encouraged us in a very emphatic way to serve the poor. Not only to serve them, but to be with them and share God's love with them. I also remember how St. John Paul II consistently demanded that the Church have a "preferential option for the poor."*

*But we know as well that Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, tells us to help the poor, for that is how we can save our own lives. Remember how he told us "whenever you help the least ones, you do it for me."*

*Fr. Wilson*

**RENEW AND REBUILD** - As many of you heard last week, we are in the process of fundraising for major projects in our parish. Needless to say, this is very important for us. All of you are very generous, and I hope you will continue to be in this effort. It is important that we wrap up pledges from you by the end of the year. The weekend of

December 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> will provide an opportunity to do so at all the Masses. Thank you so very much for your continued support.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH :** Gerhard Herron, Margaret Wilcox, Evan Ciovacco, Lydia Casey, Evelyn Bouffard, Mark Hamm, Grover Williams, Stephanie Merenda, Carol Wilson, Dawn Hazel Burrows, Jordana Bell, Lori DeLucca, Amanda Carneski, Linda Sartori, Mary Murphy Adamitis, Winifred Capowski, Arthur Nadeau, Jeff Moissonnier, LuAnn Ballantine, Frank D'Agostino, Michael Kain, Danny Hagerty, Sonja Kelly, Mike Butts, Mary Ann Mullen, Erin D'Elia, Richard Piccoli, Dominic Nannetti, Santino Delfino, Luz Pelkey, Averie Burke, Ricky McGhee, John Daubman, Kathryn Garzetta, Joseph Licurse, Delora Brooks, June Heckelman, Teresa Pelkey, Renee Cobuzzi, Joanne Balek, Michael Engel, Theresa Thompson, Helen Murphy Riley, Linda Mary Dick, Leela Niranjana, Ralph & Kathy Locantore, Fred Arni, Brandon Rojas, Leah Rost, Genevieve Minischetti, Susan Consentino, Pat Boice, Deborah McGovern, Arietta Carroll, Flo Vinchiarello, Cecilia Cummings, Mary Simmons, Dolores Russo and William Edwards.

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**RECONCILIATION MONDAY & TUESDAY** - In preparation for Christmas, you are welcome to come celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) at Immaculate Conception in Amenia on Monday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 5 pm to 8 pm and at St. Anthony's in Pine Plains on Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, between 7 pm to 9 pm.

**ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY** - There will be no Altar Rosary Society meeting on Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you at the Living Nativity on Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS TREE** - All children and adults are invited to bring an ornament to the 10:45 am Mass next weekend, Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> and place it on the Christmas tree in Church. The idea being that each family will be represented on our Parish Tree.

**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE** - There is a sign-up sheet in the Sacristies in Amenia and Pine Plains for the Christmas Schedule for Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Altar Servers and Ushers. Please place your name on the schedule for the time you are available to serve. You are most needed and greatly appreciated.

**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.

**ALTAR ROSARY HOLIDAY LUNCHEON** - The Altar Rosary Society is planning a Luncheon at The Ponds in Ancramdale on Sunday, December 30<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 pm. All are invited. Dinner choices will be chicken marsala or flounder francese @ \$27.00 per person or prime rib @ \$32.00 per person. Dinner will include Soup or Salad, Coffee, Tea, Soda, Dessert, Tax and Gratuity. If you wish to attend, please contact Margaret Gregoire at (518) 789-3337 or the Parish Office (373-8193). Reservations and the price of your dinner should be given to Margaret no later than Thursday, December 27<sup>th</sup>.

**SUNDAY COLLECTION** - Last weekend, December 1-2, 2018, approximately **324** people attended Mass and we collected \$5,253.00 in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$1,350.00 for Utility and Energy. I thank you for your presence, your generosity and steadfast commitment to our Church. I pray that God will continue to bless you and your families.

**WHAT IS CHRISTMAS?** - It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and every path may lead to peace. (Agnes M. Pharo)

**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 and Tyler Jasmin. Please keep our servicemen and their families in your prayers

**SAVE THE DATE** - The New York City Bus Trip is scheduled for Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. Details will follow.

**MEANING OF ADVENT WREATH** - The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent symbolizes Faith with the "Bethlehem Candle" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. This week remember that God keeps his promises in ways more glorious than we can imagine. "No eye has seen, Nor ear heard, Nor the heart of man conceived, what God has prepared for those who love Him" (1 Corinthians 2-9)

*The Sanctuary Light which will burn this week  
at Immaculate Conception Church  
was donated by Larry & Laurie Hardisty  
In Loving Memory of Lawrence C. Hardisty, Jr.*