

J.M.J.

Dear Parishioners,

A life of faith is a life of sacrifice. Our Christian vocation does not take us away from our place in the world, but requires us to cast aside anything that would get in the way of God's will. The light that has just begun to shine is only a beginning. We have to follow it if we want it to shine as a star and then like the sun.

The Wise Men must have traveled along bad roads and slept in uncomfortable places, but the star was showing them the way and taught them the meaning of their lives. The star made their journey joyful and reminded them at the time that it was worth undergoing any discomfort or danger as long as they came to see Jesus. That is what matters. Sacrifices are borne with elegance and happiness if the goal is worth while.

When they reach Jerusalem they are left without the light which had been guiding them. The star disappears and they are lost. What do they do then? They ask those who should know. Where is He that has been born, the King of the Jews? We have seen His star out in the East and we have come to worship Him. We have to learn from these wise and holy men. Sometimes we too are lost in the dark, because we try to have our lives illumined according to our paths, instead of seeking the light of God's will. In our lives we very often make our choices, not according to God's will, but according to our own likes and fancies, to our comfort and our cowardice. We are not used to looking up, towards the star, but rather to lighting our way with our own candle, which is a little light, a feeble light, a light which reduces our field of vision to the limits of our own selfishness.

The whole of our life is a road towards Jesus. It is a road we have to travel by the light of faith. Faith will lead us, whenever necessary, to ask and let ourselves be guided, to be docile. The Wise Men found the star again. It showed them where Our Lord was, because they followed the advice and indications of those who, at that time, had been placed by God's providence to show them the way. Very often our faith is to be applied in docility, in this sign of humility, which is letting oneself be helped in spiritual guidance by the person whom we know is the good shepherd for us here and now.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Father Newcomb*

The second collection today is for *Catholic Communications*. Please give it your prayerful consideration.

Fr. Csete will be celebrating a Hungarian Mass *today at 1:30pm* in the Church.

**G.E.M.S.** will be meeting on *Tuesday, January 5th at 6:30pm* in the parish office. All children in grades 6 through 8 are invited to join.

St. Joseph's Table will be serving dinner on *Friday, January 8th from 5pm-7pm* in the Church hall. If you or someone you knows needs a hot meal or fellowship, please invite them.

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas– Court Madonna #114** will be meeting on *Tuesday, January 12th* in the Church hall. Social begins at 6:45pm, followed by the business meeting 7:15pm.

***New members are welcome!***



**Court Madonna #114** will be hosting their annual *Tricky Tray* on **Sunday, January 17th.** Doors open at noon and drawing begins at 2pm. *Tickets are 25 for \$1!* Proceeds will benefit Community Charities

**F.A.I.T.H. Events:**

**Movie Night:** Friday, January 15th. Doors open at 5:30pm, show starts at 5:45pm. Feature presentation is *“Home”*. Popcorn and drinks will be available. Bring blankets and wear comfy clothes.

**Save The Date!!**

Saturday, February 6th- *Lenten Event.*  
Friday, March 4th- *Annual Fish Fry.*

Are you tough enough to be a Boy Scout? You are invited to join **BSA Troop #173**, Mondays at 6:30pm at St. Mary’s church hall. For more information email: [pjtroop173@gmail.com](mailto:pjtroop173@gmail.com).

Empowering Port Jervis is hosting a Tri-State Ecumenical Prayer and worship service. It will be held at the Deerpark Reformed Church, 30 E. Main St., on Saturday, January 9th at 6:30pm. Bring a friend, a can of soup, and a willing spirit, and hear how you can help the local homeless population this winter. For more information contact: Zachary Pearce 741-2639 or email [zkpearce@live.com](mailto:zkpearce@live.com).

The collections for Christmas, Dec. 26/27, and Jan. 2/3, will be reported on the Jan. 10th bulletin.  
Thank you for your continued generosity.

**ANNOUNCED MASSES**

**Monday, January 4 (Elizabeth Ann Seton, religious)**  
9:00am Luann McCarthy, by James Hinkley and family

**Tuesday, January 5 (John Neumann, bishop)**  
9:00am Betty Corcoran, by Mary Billman

**Wednesday, January 6 (Andre Bessette, religious)**  
9:00am Fritz Klostermeier, by wife Irene Emilio Macchiarolo, by Maria Macchiarolo

**Thursday, January 7 (Raymond Penyafort, priest)**  
9:00am Ralph Marino, by Deacon Richard and Joanne Marino Elizabeth Corcoran, by Dr. and Mrs. Craig Onofry

**Saturday, January 9**  
4:00pm Regis Foster, by Steve and Rosemarie Babey

**Sunday, January 10 (Baptism of the Lord)**  
8:30am Edward and Mary Vogel, by the Adamcik family  
11:30am The parishioners of St. Mary’s

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Ida Lissner, Joann Wilcox, Jonathan Saletto, Marion Rohner, Nick Moscatiello, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, Allan Van Starrex, Donald Wolff, Walter Szpakowicz, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Joe Brennan, Betty Brennan, Richard Samek, Andrea Fedoruk, Sandy Osbourne, John McKean, Lisa Donahue, Angela Portella, Pauline Portella, Florence Marino, Maureen Hildebrandt, William Quinn, Vada Glass, Mary Ellen Piper, Jeannine Lincoln, Mary Platania, Tonya Addy, Gloria Hicks, Thomas Gumaer, Jr., Ashley Avella, Amelia Quinn, Leon Logan, Theresa Kavanagh, Angela Grillo, Grace Maillet, Aedan Roach, Robin Radzikowski, Mary E. Smith, Fontano family, Sally Hanstine, Diana Kuhn, and Dennis Simmons.

***Liturgical Ministers for January 9/10***

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	L. AVELLA	N. SMITH, J. SNELLINGER, A. WITKOWSKI	V. AND E. WITKOWSKI, J. MARCONE
8:30AM	M. LATINI	S. RIORDAN, M. ADAMCIK, E. DECKER	T. LAMOREAUX, Z. ADAMCIK, A. WEBB
11:30AM	D. COTUGNO	R. DENNINGTON, D. LIVINGSTON, T. MARION	J. KLOTZ, S. KLOTZ, D. KLOTZ