

# Epiphany of the Lord January 7 - 13, 2018

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday

5:00 PM For Judi DiMitre – 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary by  
Fran, John & Maureen

### Sunday

9:00 AM For the Parishioners of Saint Brigid's

### Monday

7:30 AM For Charles "Woody" Ricci by Louisa  
Iannotti

### Next Saturday

5:00 PM For the Parishioners of Saint Brigid's

### Next Sunday

9:00 AM For the sick Parishioners of St. Brigid's

## Weekend Mass Schedule

The weekend Mass Schedule for the months of January and February will be 5:00 PM on Saturdays and 9:00 AM on Sundays.

## Parish Stewardship

### Weekend of December 23 & 24, 2017

Budget Collection	\$2,626.00
December Monthly to Date	\$817.00
Christmas Collection	\$2,395.00
Annual Collection to Date	\$9,192.00
# of Budget Envelopes Used	119

### Weekend of December 30 & 31, 2017

The Parish Stewardship for December 30 & 31 will be in next week's Bulletin due to an early submission date for this weekend's Bulletin.

## 2018 20-Week Club

There will be a person collecting on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend of every month from December to April. All other weeks you can use the 20-Week Club payment envelope found on the ushers' tables.

## 2018 20-Week Winners

- December 31<sup>st</sup> – Leah Montagano - # 166

## Religious Education News

Religious Education classes resume this week. Grades 1 – 5 meets from 3:30 – 5:15 PM and Grades 6 – 9 meets from 6:30 – 7:30 PM.

## Vocations Retreat

The annual priesthood retreat for high school seniors, college and post college age men who may be considering a priesthood vocation will take place @ the Seminary of Our Lady of Providence on Friday and Saturday, January 12-13, 2018. Please see Father Bob if you are interested.

## Thank You

The children and staff at the William D'Abate Elementary School in Providence are extremely grateful for the enormous generosity of the parishioners of Saint Brigid's Church. Because of you Christmas was made a little more special for some needy boys and girls. The children have made "thank you notes" which are posted in the foyer of the church.

Thank you to members of the Scalabrini Council of the Knights of Columbus for delivering Christmas flowers and cards to the home-bound and nursing home residents of our parish.

## Adult Confirmation Classes

Any adult 18 years or older who wishes to take Confirmation Classes in preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation is asked to let Fr. Bob know before February 11, 2018. Classes will take place on Tuesdays February 27<sup>th</sup>, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. Confirmation will be celebrated at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.

## Health Reminder

We all know that there are many germs floating around these days. Just a reminder, that if you have a cold or are recuperating from the flu or other viruses, please do not receive from the chalice and/or if you are a Eucharistic minister, please ask someone else to take your place. This may help stop some germs from spreading around.

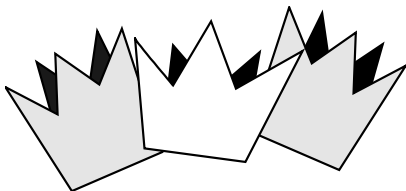
## ***Father Bob's Ramblings***

Today is a feast of light! Images of light surround us in today's liturgy. In fact, the meaning of the word *epiphany* means "revelation" or "illumination." What was once darkness is now light; what was once hidden is now revealed in Jesus. St. John's Gospel tells us that Christ, the Light of God, has come into the world. Indeed, that is what today's solemnity acknowledges and celebrates: that God's Light has come into the world and has overpowered the darkness; that God, through Christ, has literally *transformed* the darkness into light!

Today's celebration also gives us hope. The darkness that exists in the world is all too real: darkness of war, of terrorism; darkness of an increasing disregard for human life and respect for one another; darkness of oppression and of violence. Sometimes the darkness is so strong that it threatens to actually overcome the Light that is Christ, the Light that is his Gospel, and the Light that is God's love. But, we have a promise from God and today we remember that promise: The darkness will *never* overcome the Light! Today we proclaim that God shines upon us and, in his love, his glory will always appear over us (Isaiah 60:2).

As we begin this New Year of 2018, may we try to keep this hope alive in our hearts. No matter what events come upon us. Let us remember that the Light of Christ, which we carry within ourselves, will never allow the darkness of the world or its events to take over our lives.

I would like to thank all who contributed to our flower and decoration collection. Your contributions helped defray the costs of the decorations for the season as well as defray the cost of the flowers sent to our shut-ins. As you may or may not know, a card and plant is sent to each homebound member (who we know of) of our parish at Christmas and Easter. Members of the Knights of Columbus deliver them for us.



## **The Story of the Warm Fuzzies**

I'm sure you have all heard the story *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. Well, this is a tale of what the Grinch tried to do many years before that.

At one time in Whoville there lived lots and lots of very happy people. They followed what Jesus taught them — **Love God and Love Others**. They didn't have much money, but they had lots of warm fuzzies. They used them to show love to one another. When they saw each other, they exchanged fuzzies and said, "God Bless you!" The strange thing about these fuzzies was the more they shared them, the more they received back. There were warm fuzzies everywhere!!



The Grinch was mean even back then and hated all this fuzzy stuff. He came up with a plan! He started a rumor that soon there would not be any more warm fuzzies and convinced them that they needed to hide theirs and never, ever share. So, they all hid their warm fuzzies. Soon people didn't trust each other anymore.

For the first time ever, loneliness, fear and hate came to Whoville. They stopped loving each other, and they stopped loving God, too — because GOD IS LOVE. All the fuzzies were locked in boxes and there was no more love to be found. No one was happy in Whoville, except, of course that mean old Grinch, who laughed with delight at his great achievement.

After a time, one of the children began to think about how things used to be in Whoville when people shared their warm fuzzies. It occurred to her that maybe the mean old Grinch had been LYING. The fuzzies were hidden because of FEAR. She came up with a plan.

Bravely she took all of her warm fuzzies that were hidden in boxes. During the evening, while the lazy Grinch slept, she quietly delivered her precious gifts to every child in Whoville. As each one received their fluffy treasures, they got out all their own fuzzies and began sharing them with others. As the warm fuzzies were given away they began to multiply. When the adults saw how happy the children were, they, too, began to exchange their own fuzzies. Soon Whoville was back to its original state where everyone loved God and cared about each other.

But when the Grinch saw this he said, "These happy people make me crazy with the love stuff. Someday, I'm going to steal their Christmas!!"