

# GLAD TIDINGS

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JANUARY 2021

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## Appearing - Into Our View

The journey of the church now enters The Epiphany. The word “epiphany” comes from a Greek word meaning “manifestation” or “appearing”. Over time, from as early as the 2<sup>nd</sup> century in Egypt, The Epiphany actually combines three separate events: (1) the visit of the Magi, led by the star of Bethlehem, (2) the Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, and (3) the first recorded miracle of Jesus by changing water into wine at the wedding of Cana...all thought to be manifestations of the incarnate Lord.

How is it all relevant to us today? We could answer the same way: by combination.

The Epiphany is the **process** of manifestation of Jesus as the Christ for each of us.

The process for **us** of recognizing Emmanuel, of God being with us.

It is the starting of the transformation of our “vision”, allowing us to know the presence of God.

Scripture asserts that no one has seen God within the common understanding of what we define as “seeing”. But to witness and know God’s loving presence more and more often, and in more and more ways, are the very blessings that we live for as children of God and the world is so starved for.

**I have shared before that I recall one young person who honestly told me about coming to church, “I don’t know about God. I come here because I love you guys.”**

**FR. HEIDT’S MESSAGE CONTINUED ON PG. 8**



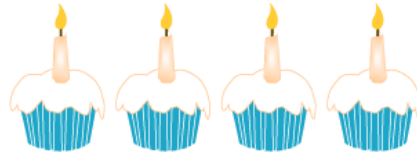
Rector	<b>Fr. James K. Heidt</b>
Warden	<b>Willie Talmadge</b>
Warden	<b>Jane Padrón</b>
Treasurer	<b>Michael Rescigno</b>
Parish Secretary	<b>Annette Clark-Hani</b>
Financial Secretary	<b>Vacant</b>
Music Director	<b>Erick Kroll</b>
Facility Maintenance	<b>Chris Klara</b>

## Vestry 2021

Willie Talmadge, Warden ('22)  
 Jane Padrón, Warden ('21)  
 Brenda Outwater ('21), Jennifer Swinney ('21)  
 Harriet Brennan ('22), Mike Rescigno ('22),  
 Annie Deacon ('23), **OPEN ('22)**  
 Annette Clark-Hani, Clerk of Vestry  
 Michael Rescigno, Treasurer

## Happy January Birthday to:

January 2 Eric Deeley  
 January 13 Lucy Kousouros  
 January 16 Michael Rescigno  
 January 17 Rick Weltz  
 January 18 Jeff Foley



January 19 Annette Clark-Hani  
 January 21 David Sroka  
 January 23 David Dutcher  
 January 24 Kevin Lee  
 January 26 Rick Savery  
 January 30 Don Washburn



## Happy January Anniversary to:

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY LISTED PLEASE LET ANNETTE KNOW IN THE OFFICE.**

## Memorial Gifts and Flowers - Given to the Glory of God

**ALTAR FLOWERS-Cost \$35-These will count for the FIRST 4 Sundays in a row when we return.**

**January 3-In Memory of:** Jack Early; **Given By:** Shirley Early

**January 10—In Memory of:** Donald & Irene Stratton/Evelyn D. Boulerice; **Given By:** Gary & Muriel Boulerice

**January 17-In Memory of:** Judy Brown & John Marks; **Given By:** Mike & Tina Rescigno

**January 24-In Memory of:** Thomas J. Brennan; **Given By:** Harriet Brennan

**January 31-**

***Please help Zion defray some of the cost and sign-up in Clarke Hall.***

**Candle Oil & Bulletins-Cost \$10**

**January 3-**

**January 10-**

**January 17-**

**January 24-**

**January 31-**

# Our Prayer List

*“Heavenly Father, watch over these your children, and grant that they may be restored to that perfect health which is yours alone to give, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen”*

**Those needing extra prayers:** Bernadette, Patricia, Joyce, Blaze, Lance, J. Daniel, Jill, Charles O’Neill, John & Linda Hunter, Annie Seymour’s Family, Brett McDonnell, Georgia Northup, Ann Northup, Richard Stratton, Lois Wiggins, Zachary Thomason, Joan Moore, The Gambier Family, Shirley Reali, AnnMarie Bronson-Hunter, Pasquale Mesagna, Al & Krissy Rozanski, Lorelie Rice, Michael Potter, Siegmund Urbanek, David Dutcher, Janet Renzi, Rachel Dyball, Sharon Dyball, Helen Seaman, Cindy DeProspero-Outwater, Kevin & Alice Wilson, Bill McGee, Brenda Outwater, Wayne Towne, Grace Millington, Ginny Telego, Catherine Zbiegien, Georgeanna Howanietz, Randy Jones, Sr., Janice McNaughton, Jim & Pat Hoffman, Anne Staple, Bea Golden, Charlotte Rice, Erica Young & Baby, Sharon Parsons, Karen Chapman, Lauren Ziegler, Joann Bienvenue, Willis Bienvenue, Susan Bogart

*Though you cannot be with us in person at Zion Church, you are with us in thought and prayer.*

At Home .....Charles O’Neill  
Catherine Zbiegien  
John & Linda Hunter



It is with sad hearts.....

Annie Seymour passed away on December 23; at this time, we do not have any information about a service. But when the time comes, we will pass along that information to you; in the mean time you can send letters and cards of sympathy to:

Renee Seymour  
6485 Pillmore Circle  
Rome, NY 13440

## Wardens’ Note:

There is an exciting opportunity being offered by the diocese called Speak Faith. It is a program geared for teen and adult confirmation. It can also be an opportunity for all to get to know and engage our faith in a deeper way. There are two informational sessions; January 6th @ noon and January 13th @ 6:00 pm. You can register for these and also the Speak Faith program on the diocesan website or by calling the diocesan office.

# Who's scheduled at a glance ...

## READINGS DONE BY INDIVIDUALS ON ZOOM

### 1st SUNDAY: The Second Sunday after Christmas Day January 3, 2021-9AM- *Holy Eucharist*

**Priest** Fr. Jim Heidt  
**Lay Readers** Tina Rescigno (To read all readings)  
Mike Rescigno

**Check-In Persons**

**Acolyte** Tina Rescigno  
**Altar Guild** Tina Rescigno, Jane McDonnell  
**Church Opener** Month of January

### 2nd SUNDAY: The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ January 10, 2021-9AM- *Holy Eucharist*

**Priest** Fr. Jim Heidt  
**Lay Readers** Sandie Latimer (To read all readings)

**Check-In Persons**

**Acolyte** Sandie Latimer  
**Altar Guild**  
**Church Opener** Month of January

### 3rd SUNDAY: The Second Sunday after the Epiphany January 17, 2021-9AM—*Holy Eucharist*

**Priest** Fr. Jim Heidt  
**Lay Readers** Jane Padrón (To read all readings)  
Jennifer Swinney

**Check-In Persons**

**Acolyte** Jane Padrón  
**Altar Guild**  
**Church Opener** Month of January

### 4th SUNDAY: The Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 24, 2021-9AM—*Holy Eucharist*

**Priest** Fr. Jim Heidt  
**Lay Readers** Rick Weltz (To read all readings)  
Annette Clark-Hani

**Check-In Persons**

**Acolyte** Rick Weltz  
**Altar Guild**  
**Church Opener** Month of January

**SCHEDULE CONTINUED ON PG. 6**

## ERICK KROLL'S FROM THE ORGAN BENCH



A staple of Epiphany, Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning #117 (one of my favorites) is one of the most prolific hymn texts in Christian hymnody appearing in - believe it or not - 843 hymnals with over a dozen tunes over the last 155 years. The two most common tunes this text has been paired with in the twentieth century are Morning Star #117 - a bright happy tune - and Star of the East #118 - a more haunting tune from The Southern Harmony. In the nineteenth century, a bright happy tune composed by Wolfgang A. Mozart no longer used in

hymnals predominated and was usually referred to as Folsom for its tune name. This hymn also appears in the 1892 Hymnal with three tunes; Morning Star being third. The second tune which I have not seen elsewhere has a high G and many high F's in the melody.

The author of the text, Reginald Heber, was born in 1783 of a wealthy, educated family and educated at Oxford where he won two awards for his poetry. After Oxford, he became rector of his father's church in Hodnet near Shrewsbury in the west of England which he served for sixteen years. He became Bishop of Calcutta in 1823 until the weather and travel took a toll on his health and later died from a stroke. Most of his 57 hymns, which include "Holy, Holy, Holy" # 362 are still in use today.

Source is from Hymnary.org

Cheers, Erick

### 5th SUNDAY: The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany January 31, 2021-9AM- *Holy Eucharist*

<b>Priest</b>	Fr. Jim Heidt
<b>Lay Readers</b>	Tina Rescigno (To read all readings) Mike Rescigno
<b>Check-In Persons</b>	
<b>Acolyte</b>	Tina Rescigno
<b>Altar Guild</b>	
<b>Church Opener</b>	Month of January



### **MITTEN TREE/ BLESSING TREE**

Here is the Mitten Tree/Blessing Tree from December 2020; as you can see, we had a full tree and that made for plenty of bags on the blessing tree to the right. We would like to thank everyone for their donations and keep them coming because we are going to do this all winter long. Zion will be making sure even in times of such pandemic situations we rise to meet challenges of your fellow men and women in our community. **THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!**

### **REACHING OUT**

As we did with our blessing tree, we hope in the new year we all can reach out to someone. So please call someone, drop a note or card to a parishioner, face time on messenger. I believe we all would like for a person to **REACH OUT** to us and say hi.

### **ANNUAL MEETING**

The annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup> but will be a little different this year. It will be held on Zoom; more information will be sent later. But for now please remember for the annual meeting it is **BYOB!!!!**



### **A Prayer for Putting on a Facemask**

*written by the Right Reverend Richard Bott, current Moderator of the United Church of Canada.*

**Creator,**

as I prepare to go into the world, help me to see the sacrament in the wearing of this cloth -

let it be "an outward sign of an inward grace" -

a tangible and visible way of living love for my neighbors, as I love myself.

**Christ,**

since my lips will be covered, uncover my heart, that people would see my smile in the crinkles around my eyes.

Since my voice may be muffled, help me to speak clearly, not only with my words, but with my actions.

**Holy Spirit,**

as the elastic touches my ears, remind me to listen carefully -and full of care - to all those I meet.

May this simple piece of cloth

be shield and banner, and each breath that it holds, be filled with your love.

**In your Name and in that love, I pray.**

**May it be so. May it be so.**

## **FR. HEIDT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED...**

Well, once there was this birth...a very common, ordinary birth to a working-class guy and his young wife-to-be. No silver spoon in his mouth. Nothing. Somehow, I find it more realistic and likely that Joseph and Mary said to each other, "I am here because I love you."

We celebrate the Baptism of our Lord in the River Jordan as another "manifestation". But think of how many baptisms **you** have witnessed in celebration. We all love baptisms, especially of the very young. Why? We may not be too sure of the theology. But there is a **very** seminal emotion from the gut witnessing the familial love of promise for that new child of Christ.

And the wedding at Cana? The "manifestation" was for the joy of life. Recognizing that, in what would otherwise be a hard and tough existence on this earth until burial, life is meant to be celebrated as the true blessing from God that it is. That life actually becomes abundant when we enjoy what we have in the company of those we love, and who love us, in the name of Jesus.

"...I am here because I love you guys." That alone is a statement of faith, that those in relationship at Zion manifest the very presence of God through Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God. May we continue to know God's presence in this parish, and the world beyond.

In the Love of Christ always, Fr. Jim

### **A Note of Thanks**

As we close out the year, I wanted to take a minute to express my thanks, and the thanks of your Vestry, for the continued financial support you have provided to our parish. It goes without saying that this was a difficult year on many fronts, and our everyday lives have changed in countless ways over the past several months. Yet throughout, you all have remained faithful in your support of Zion Church and it's ministries.

While I often mention pledges in my notes, I wanted to especially mention the financial contributions that we received this year that were above and beyond pledge — to help support our food programs and for the mitten tree and even to help offset the increased postage cost of all the mailings that have gone out to keep our parish connected. Or just to use wherever we have the greatest need.

Our parishioners give from their hearts, and your generosity is greatly appreciated by the Vestry and by Fr. Heidt. But most especially, it is appreciated by those we are able to reach and minister to because of you. Thank you!

Respectfully,  
Mike Rescigno