

# FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME MARCH 5, 2017

## PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

	Mon.	March 6	8:00 am	Ann Whalen
	Tues.	March 7	8:00 am	Micha K. Carroll
	Wed.	March 8	8:00 am	Lora Darmanin
	Thurs.	March 2	8:00 am	NO MASS
	Fri.	March 3	8:00 am	Katherine Blinn
<b>Pine Plains</b>	"	"	12 noon	James & Elizabeth Moriarty
	Sat.	Feb. 4	8:00 am	Barbara & Ray McEnroe
			4:30 pm	Mr. & Mrs. Walter McDonald

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<b>Pine Plains</b>	Sun	Feb. 5	8:00 am	People of the Parish
			10:45 am	Dolan Thomas Duncan

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## "THE BEGINNING OF LENT"

Dear Friends:

*My memories of Lents past always seem to revolve around my mistakes regarding the regulations for eating on Fridays. We all know you can't eat meat on Fridays of Lent. One time I bought a nice cup of clam chowder at a Deli. After eating a few bites, I realized that there were bacon bits in the soup! Then there was the time I went with some friends to a diner (on Friday!). I ordered a fried egg sandwich with, yes, bacon. A few hours later I realized what I had done.*

*As we approach Lent, we often become a little down because of the things we pledge to give up. We also feel a little down because we know of the sacrifices we have to make in the 40 days. We also realize that we very well might slip up, or we might simply not do the things we want to do, or the things we promised to do.*

*I know that I don't always look toward Lent as a positive thing. In my job, there are a lot of responsibilities in this Holy Season, and I worry about them, and I always hope I am able to do a decent job for the people of God.*

*But this is not a very good attitude, although it is one I have carried with me for years. I have to fight to be positive about Lent, and to bring some kind of uplift to the season.*

*I can really see that it helps to be positive about Lent. This is not just some "feel-good" idea that avoids the real sacrifices of a productive Lenten season. This is fundamentally going to the core of Lent – a holy time of grace that leads us to the real joy of Easter. Yes, Lent can be positive. We have so many opportunities to do good things as part of our Lenten commitment. It isn't just a time for "giving up". It is a time of real personal growth. Personal growth that isn't the result of some trendy new-age ideas. Rather, personal growth that comes from living a life the way that Jesus wants us to live.*

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.

**2017 CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL** - As of February 24<sup>th</sup>, our parish has received **\$12,800.00** in pledges/gifts from **31** families. Our parish goal is \$41,500. For this Appeal to be truly successful, we must have the support of all of our families. The Appeal is a vital source of funding for the programs and ministries that sustain the parishes across our Archdiocese. I sincerely ask that all our families prayerfully consider making a pledge or one-time donation in an amount you can afford. Your consideration is greatly appreciated. *"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." (1 Peter 4:10).*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH :** Ralph Cummings, Ann Bida, 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, Billy Carroll, Jordana Bell, Lori DeLucca, Amanda Carneski, Baby James Ryan Farrell, Linda Sartori, Helen McGhee, Richard & Mary Ann Valinsk, Mary Murphy Adamitis, Winifred Capowski, Arthur Nadeau, Barbara Moissonnier, Nina Williams, LuAnn Ballantine, Frank D'Agostino, Michael Kain, Shirley Remsburger, Teresa Schell, Susan Moody, Danny Hagerty, Sonja Kelly, Jack Silvernale, Mike Butts and Mary Ann Mullen, John Kemmerer, Jr., Alan Carroll, Erin D-Elia, Linda Staab, Father John Durkin, Daisy Abruzzo, Richard Piccoli, Laura Galdiero, Bernard Heaney, Joseph Scutieri, Eileen Murphy Ehlers, Al Blackburn, Ann Marie Russolillo and Dominic Nannetti.

**MEN'S GROUP** - The Men's Group will meet on Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, at 6:45 pm in the Chapel of Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia. All are welcome.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** - This coming Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, the Stations of the Cross will be held at 7:00 pm at St. Stanislaus, 1590 Main Street, Pleasant Valley. Please consider joining together with our fellow parishes for this Lenten devotion.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CREED** - A class based on the Apostles' Creed will be starting Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Center. The class will begin at 7 pm and end at 8:30 pm. The class is intended primarily for parents or grandparents of Religious Ed age children, however all are welcome. See <http://icsaamania.org/> for more information or call the office.

**LENTEN MOVIE** - We will be showing "Tre Ore: The Seven Last Words of Christ" (2 CD's) presented by Bishop Robert Barron. The two sessions will be held at the Parish Center in Amenia at 7:00 pm on Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Specifically these 2 videos refer to the three hours that Jesus hung on the Cross and includes a series of homilies on the seven last words spoken by Christ."

*Always pray to have eyes that see the best in people,  
a heart that forgives the worst,  
a mind that forgets the bad,  
and a soul that never loses faith in God.*

**DO YOU LOVE LENT?** Treat yourself to some quality time with our God who loves us more than we love ourselves. Come to Morning Prayer and Guided Meditation, Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at St. Anthony's Church.

**PINE PLAINS FOOD LOCKER** - The food locker item needed for March is Laundry Detergent. Items can be placed in the basket on the table at the top of the stairs.

**ST. PATRICK'S POT LUCK** - Our traditional St. Patrick's "pot luck" and "bake sale" will be held on Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, from 1 pm to 3 pm in the gym. Please join us for a pleasant afternoon with good friends, good food and hopefully good weather. We are in need of Volunteers. Please call the office at 373-8193 if you are willing to lend a helping hand.

**SUNDAY COLLECTION** - Last weekend, February 25-26, 2017, we collected \$3,838.76 in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$1,728.30 for Lenten Sacrifice. I thank you for your steadfast commitment to our Church and 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 and Nathan Tong. 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 Denise Conway  
In Memory of Ann Whalen*