

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
November 4, 2018

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

Amenia	Mon.	Nov. 5	8:00 am	Carmen Zuba
"	Tues.	Nov. 6	8:00 am	Mary Hardisty
"	Wed.	Nov. 7	8:00 am	Rudolph Eschbach
"	Thurs.	Nov. 8	8:00 am	NO MASS
"	Fri.	Nov. 9	8:00 am	Elizabeth N. McEnroe
Pine Plains	"	"	12 noon	Anne Chamberlin
Amenia	Sat.	Nov. 10	8:00 am	Mary Hardisty
"	"	"	4:30 pm	George Wilbur
Pine Plains	Sun	Nov. 11	8:00 am	Fiorento Liberta
Amenia	"	"	10:45 am	People of the Parish

"A VOICE OF REASON"

Dear Friends:

This is a subject so difficult to talk about, but talk about it we must. It is the subject of clergy sexual abuse in the Catholic Church. I would prefer never to talk about it, but that is not an option. When we have problems in life, the best thing to do is confront them and deal with them, not try to escape and hide and pretend that the problems don't exist.

I am prompted here by a thoughtful article written by Paul Baumann. Baumann was writing about another writer who had announced that he was leaving the Church because it had become a "repulsive" and corrupt institution. It was an especially interesting article because the unhappy writer was a convert to Catholicism like me.

In response to this news, Baumann writes a very reasoned and thoughtful response to someone leaving the Church. Baumann makes several important points.

Baumann points out that many recent reactions against the Church was a result of the Pennsylvania grand-jury report, a horrible and scandalous revelation. But the report shows that there is no evidence that sexual abuse continues to be epidemic in the Church. In Pennsylvania only 2 credible accusations were reported after 2002, and both were turned over to law enforcement. None of the abuses in the grand-jury report are still active in the priesthood. Most of them are dead.

Baumann points out that the Dallas Charter, produced by the Bishops in 2002, was a "turning point." It mandated extensive preventative measures and removed from the priesthood anyone found to have abused minors. Baumann tells us "regular audits show that there are just now a tiny number" of cases happening at the present time.

Of course we all hope and pray that an abuse case never occurs in the future. And all of this information is hardly consoling to those who have suffered abuse. Our heart and prayers go out to all the victims. We will continue to work very hard to make the Church a place that is safe for our children. For our children are our treasure, and our hope.

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH : Gerhard Herron, Margaret Wilcox, Janet Stiles, 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 & Al Cobuzzi, Joanne Balek, Michael Engel, Theresa Thompson, Helen Murphy Riley, Linda Mary Dick, Leela Niranjani, Ralph & Kathy Locantore, Fred Arni, Brandon Rojas, Leah Rost, Genevieve Minischetti, Susan Consentino, Pat Boice, Deborah McGovern, Arietta Carroll, Flo Vinchiarello and Cecilia Cummings.

MEN'S CLUB - The next Men's Club meeting will be held on Monday, November 5, at 6:45 pm in the Chapel of Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia.

PARISH OF ST. CHRISTOPHER AND ST. SYLVIA - The Lady's Guild Annual Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday, November 17 from 10 am to 4 pm at St. Christopher's School, 30 Benner Road, Red Hook. Admission is free. Shop for Christmas gifts and decorations, pose for a picture with Santa (11 am – 1 pm), enjoy the silent auction and much, much more. For info: stchrisredhook.org.

COUNTY WIDE HEALING PRAYER SERVICE - Just a reminder that the County wide healing Prayer Service will be held at St. Martin de Porres on Monday, November 5th beginning at 7 pm.

NEWLY BAPTIZED - The following children were born into the new life of Christ in the waters of Baptism: Juliana Maria Timko, Jonah William Takacs, Leo Spencer Ivan Ixim, Blakely Rowan Grey, Kendall Marie Ahearn, Teagan Grace Anthony and David Isaac Reyes. We pray that Our Lord, Jesus Christ, will look lovingly on these children, watch over them and fill them with peace and joy.

BE NOT AFRAID - When someone we love is dying, we may want to help but don't know what to do. We can feel powerless. Yet when they are transitioning from this life to the next, we can make a significant difference to our loved ones.

Bring love. Jesus never turned away from the sick and dying. He always had a loving hand to comfort them and their families. Sometimes just holding a hand says more than words.

Bring attention. Ask them stories about their life. You'll treasure these moments after they are gone.

Bring Comfort. Remind them how much God loves them and is waiting to welcome them. Encourage them to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick.

Bring Peace. Although someone may lose their ability to speak, they can still hear. Pray out loud, read from scripture or a favorite book.

*Bring Strength. When someone is leaving this world, fear can be overwhelming. Remind them of Jesus' words, "**Be not afraid.**" ~Growing in Faith~*

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, October 27-28, 2018, we collected \$3,837.00 in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$981.30 for the School of Religion. 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.

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

WHY DO CATHOLICS LIGHT PRAYER CANDLES? Ancient Jews kept a light perpetually burning near the Ark of the Covenant to show reverence for the presence of God. In a similar way, the lit candle symbolizes for us Christ's presence, recalling that he said, "*I am the light of the world*" (John 8:12). Votive candles in Church also symbolize prayer intentions others have offered to God. Lighting a candle is a way of expressing our desire to remain present to God after we have left the Church.

*The Sanctuary Light which will burn this week
at Immaculate Conception Church
was donated by Laurie Hardisty
In Memory of Ray Proper, Sr.*