

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT March 24, 2019

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR

Amenia	Mon.	March 25	8:00 am	Greg Lynn McEnroe
"	Tues.	March 26	8:00 am	Robert Reda
"	Wed.	March 27	8:00 am	Robert Reda
"	Thurs.	March 28	8:00 am	NO MASS
"	Fri.	March 29	8:00 am	Katherine Blinn
Pine Plains	"	"	12 noon	Emmie Pilch
Amenia	Sat.	March 30	8:00 am	Jeremiah Carroll
"	"	"	4:30 pm	Daniel Driscoll

Pine Plains	Sun	March 31	8:00 am	Fiorentino Liberta
Amenia	"	"	10:45 am	People of the Parish

"PRIDE"

Dear Friends:

Pride is a dangerous sin. I read a definition of pride as a sin: "Pride is the primal sin and the most grave of all the sins, the spiritual rebellion that untuned the harmony of the universe. Pride is also the most glamorous, pervasive, fatal and insidious of the sins."

Interestingly, the word "pride" can be used in the most innocent and beneficial way. We talk about pride in our accomplishments, being proud of our service to our country, having pride in the commendable deeds of our family. We can even say in a good way that "I am proud to be a Catholic."

But we can see that pride can have very negative meanings. And it, as we have seen, can present very dangerous problems for a committed Christian.

Let's listen to what the saints have said about the danger of sinful pride:

"The more I see the difficulty of getting rid of this pest of pride, the more I see the necessity of setting to work at it from childhood. For I find no other reason why this evil clings so to our hearts than because almost as soon as we are born it is sown in the tender minds of children by their nurses, it is cultivated by their teachers, and brought to its full growth by their parents."

St. Thomas More

"Pride makes us hate our equals because they are our equals; our inferiors from the fear that they may equal us; our superiors because they are above us. Envy, my children, follows pride; whoever is envious is proud."

St. John Vianney

As I contemplate the sin of pride, I think it sometimes has a lot to do with always making comparisons. It is so frustrating to be caught up in always comparing yourself to others. Perhaps that is one of the many dangers of pride. Sinful pride seeks praise and popularity. One way to get praised and to be popular is to constantly compare yourself to others and come up better. This useless striving leads to all kinds of problems, and shows us the real dangers of sinful pride.

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.

2019 CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL - As of March 15, 2019, we have received **\$15,080.00** in pledges from **40** families. We need the support of all of our families in order to make our goal of **\$39,500.00**. I ask those of you who have not yet responded to prayerfully consider making a pledge or one time donation in an amount you can afford. No amount is too small.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH : Gerhard Herron, Margaret Wilcox, Evan Ciovacco, Lydia Casey, 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, LuAnn Ballantine, Frank D'Agostino, Danny Hagerty, Sonja Kelly, Mike Butts, Erin D'Elia, Richard Piccoli, Dominic Nannetti, Santino Delfino, Averie Burke, Ricky McGhee, John Daubman, Joseph Licurse, Renee Cobuzzi, Joanne Balek, Michael Engel, Theresa Thompson, Linda Mary Dick, Leela Niranjani, Ralph Locantore, Fred Arni, Brandon Rojas, Leah Rost, Susan Consentino, Pat Boice, Arietta Carroll, Flo Vinchiarello, Cecilia Cummings, Mary Wilkinson, Evelyn Tompkins, Mary Simmons, Marlena Mittell, Marjorie Arni, John Haggerty, Teal Burns, Jane Bly and Robert Bartolomeo

VINE AND BRANCHES - The winner of the 50/50 was Donald McGinness. The split was \$63.00. Last weekend, we provided food for 21 families and 92 people thanks to your generosity and food donations.

MINISTRY FOR HOLY WEEK - Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers and Ushers are very important to our Church and are especially needed during Holy Week. There are sign-up sheets posted in the Sacristy of both Churches. Please place your name on the list if you are available to serve. Thank you in advance for being part of our Holy Week Liturgies.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN AMENIA - The Religious Ed Teaches and Students will be conducting the Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 29th, at 7:30 pm at Immaculate Conception Church. Please join us for this Lenten Devotion. For your convenience, confessions will be available immediately afterwards.

ST. PATRICK'S POT LUCK - Approximately 70 people gathered in our gym last Sunday afternoon for St. Patrick's "Pot Luck" and "Bake Sale." We shared some great food, listened to wonderful Irish music provided by Jim Devine and enjoyed each other's company. I want to especially thank all the bakers, cooks and volunteers (Patty Barron, Linda Flanigan, Mary Ellen Durkin, Margaret Gregoire, Denise Conway, Maureen Moore, Peg O'Hara, Dottie Silvernale) who made this day a success. We netted \$402.00 from the Bake Sale and \$123.00 from the 50/50.

CONVERT YOUR HEART DURING LENT - When we were young Catholics, Lent meant giving something up and welcoming it back at Easter. Now we know that Lent is so much more. Lent is about conversion. Each year we have the chance to leave behind old ways of living to embrace new life. The goal is not just to abstain from sin during Lent but to root it out of our lives forever.

The moment of truth. Conversion begins with accepting responsibility for our failures. Start by taking an honest look at our life and identify all the ways that sin keeps you from living the way Jesus taught us to live. Know that it may take courage to face your shortfalls.

The moment of cleansing. There can be no healing or conversion when you harbor unconfessed sin. Make a full Confession to a priest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Tell him everything. Don't worry if you have been away for a while. The priest will be happy to guide you and to welcome you back to God's friendship.

The moment of conversion. There can't be just one moment of conversion. It is necessary to convert our hearts every day. Daily prayer, frequent confession, and regular reception of the Holy Eucharist will keep our hearts filled with God's love. Then we can embrace new life at Easter.

CCCSDC 2019 SPIRIT OF SERVICE - Don't miss out on the Catholic Charities Community Services of Dutchess County (CCCSDC) event of the year! Mark your calendars for Tuesday, June 4th and plan to attend the 2019 Spirit of Service Awards dinner and auction! The parish and community spirit is once again sure to fill the room as we honor Sr. Anne Daniel Young, former Principal of St. Denis-St. Columba School, Humanitarian Award; Fred Apers, retired Executive Director Cardinal Hayes Home for Children, Light of Hope Award; Paggi Engineering, Lawrence Paggi, Corporate Citizenship Award; and Mary L. Marshall, retired Executive Director, CCCSDC, Founder's Award. Visit catholiccharities-dutchesscounty.org and on Facebook at Catholic Charities Dutchess County to purchase sponsorship, ads and tickets. Questions: Kim.Whelly@arch.org or 845-451-4299.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, March 16-17, 2019, we collected \$4,396.00 in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$1,224.00 for Utility & Energy. 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, Michael Pomeisl and Tyler Jasmin. Please keep our servicemen and their families in your prayers.

SUMMER PILGRIMAGE - Summer pilgrimage to Lourdes (France), Santiago de Compostela (Spain) and Fatima (Portugal) with Fr. Jeffrey Pomeisl from July 5-15, 2019. All inclusive cost from NY JFK: \$3495.00. For more information go to www.syversentouring.com/santiago or call 1 (845) 868-1597.