

PENTECOST SUNDAY OF EASTER

June 9, 2019

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

Amenia	Mon.	June 10	8:00 am	Ray Proper, Sr.
"	Tues.	June 11	8:00 am	Jack Murtagh
"	Wed.	June 12	8:00 am	Deborah Downey
"	Thurs.	June 13	8:00 am	NO MASS
"	Fri.	June 14	8:00 am	Lawrence C. Hardisty, Jr.
Pine Plains	"	"	12 noon	Elizabeth Brizzie
Amenia	Sat.	June 15	8:00 am	Gloria Masiello
	"	"	4:30 pm	Philomena Ketchum

Pine Plains	Sun.	June 16	8:00 am	People of the Parish
Amenia	"	"	10:45 am	Joseph H. Smith

"CONVERSION"

Dear Friends;

Every once in a while, I think it is interesting to reflect on my own conversion to the Roman Catholic faith. I would like to speak of my journey in the hope it might help you with your journey.

After I graduated from College, I was kind of lost. I had been going to school for ever, and suddenly I found myself working and having to figure out my future.

I realized I needed a spiritual home. I went to several churches, and found nothing I cared for. On a visit to my grandfather, it was suggested I read "Seven Story Mountain" by Thomas Merton. It was an incredible book and a story of a convert to Catholicism who became a monk. It woke up my soul.

I then went to a Mass in my hometown of Golden, Colorado. It was at St. Joseph's Church and the priest was Father George Fagan, in 1981. I was moved a little bit. The next time I was impressed even more. I decided to see Fr. Fagan. He was very helpful.

I kind of "read" my way into the Church. I read everything I could find, including Thomas Merton, Fulton Sheen, John Henry Newman and G.K. Chesterton. I took an interest in the "Fathers" of the Church, the theologians who wrote in the first, third or fourth centuries after Christ.

In August, I became a Catholic. I began to attend Mass regularly and was asked to be a Lector at Mass. Very soon (probably too soon) I began to think of life as a Catholic priest. You know the rest of the story.

One thing I have learned is that a conversion is not something that happens in one day. Conversion is a continuing "yes" to God over a lifetime. Becoming Catholic in 1981 wasn't the end. It was just the beginning. For all of us who take our faith seriously, we have to make that "yes" every day, no matter what happens.

Fr. Wilson

FR. WILSON'S RETREAT - Fr. Wilson will be going on retreat from midday on Monday, June 24th, through Friday, June 28th. Therefore, there will be no 8:00 am morning Mass on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday in Amenia as well as no 12 noon Mass in Pine Plains.

2019 CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL - As of May 31, 2019, we have received **\$24,690.00** in pledges from **85** families, which is 63% of our goal of \$39,500.00. All donations are appreciated. No amount is too small.

FATHER'S DAY MASS CARDS - Father's Day cards for the living and deceased are available in the back of Church. You may leave your donation in the collection basket or at the parish office.

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, Joanne Balek, Michael Engel, Theresa Thompson, Linda Mary Dick, Leela Niranjan, 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, Robert Bartolomeo, Jennifer Boice and John LaCurto.

ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY - The Altar Rosary Society will meet on Monday, June 10th, at 7:00 pm in the Chapel of Immaculate Conception. All are welcome to join them in saying the Rosary.

PENTECOST - Pentecost is the liturgical season after Easter which celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Church, ushering in a new era for the people of God. In Acts:2:1-41, the Holy Spirit descended upon apostles in which they were able to speak their native Galilean dialect but were understood by people of many different languages and nations. Pentecost begins the eighth Sunday, or 50 days, after Easter Sunday. Some people regard it as the birthday of the Church because from that point on the apostles carried the message of Christ to the whole world. It is indeed a new age of the Church through which Christ works in different means for our salvation. In other words, in the absence of Christ's physical presence to us due to His fulfillment of Scripture by His death and resurrection, Jesus has left us the sacraments through which the Holy Spirit conveys the grace of God in a physical and tangible way. Pentecost marks the beginning of this new, sacramental era in which we live today. The liturgical color for Pentecost is red.

On Pentecost Sunday, when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, they were granted the following seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: **Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety and Fear of the Lord.** These gifts helped the Apostles to fulfill their mission to preach the Gospel to all nations, For us, too, these gifts – granted when we are infused with sanctifying grace, the life of God in our souls – help us to live a Christian life.

CORPUS CHRISTI - On Friday, June 21st, we will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament to Honor the Feast of Corpus Christi from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm and from 7:30 pm to 8:00 pm we will have Rosary and Benediction Prayer and meditation before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament are great ways to spend some special time with Him. You can ask Him for graces for yourself or for loved ones, reflect on His Word, or just keep Him company and give Him your sincere love and devotion. As we need to have someone present during the entire time the Blessed Sacrament is exposed, there will be a sheet in back of the Church to sign-up for 15 minute intervals for those who wish to participate.

AARP 6 HR. DRIVER SAFETY COURSE - AARP 6 hour Driver Safety Course is being offered on Thursday, July 25, 2019 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (with a one hour lunch break) at Immaculate Conception Parish Center at 11 Lavelle Road in Amenia. The fee is \$20.00 for AARP members and \$25.00 for non members. Cash or check only. Class size is a maximum of 25 participants. Call Ed between 4 to 8 pm at 845-373-8108 to register. Bring you AARP card.

WHAT IS CATHOLIC GUILT? - Popular culture often refers negatively to "Catholic guilt," implying that Catholics are weighed down by a regretful awareness of having done wrong. Actually, guilt has a purpose. Our conscience is like the compass in our car, and guilt is what tells us we're going the wrong way. It helps us to get back on the road – in this case, to Heaven.

There is good guilt and bad guilt. Good guilt is what someone feels if he did something he knew was wrong on purpose, i.e. if he sinned. Sin hurts our relationship with God and is harmful to us. "Healthy" guilt calls for a contrite heart and a change of behavior. For Catholics, guilt should disappear when we're forgiven in Confession.

However, guilt with no corresponding sin, or lingering guilt over confessed sins, is a bad guilt. This 'useless' guilt denies God's goodness, mercy, and power to save. It also robs us of peace and joy. If you struggle with bad guilt, talk to a priest, counselor, or trusted friend for help. (*Growing in Faith*)

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, June 1-2, 2019, we collected \$4,992.00 in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$1,057.00 for Ascension Thursday. 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.

*The Sanctuary Light which will burn this week
at Immaculate Conception Church
was donated by Norm & Carol Cayea
for the Rabideau Family*

