

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
June 30, 2019

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

Amenia	Mon.	July 1	8:00 am	Rev. John L. Durkin
“	Tues.	July 2	8:00 am	Rev. John L. Durkin
“	Wed.	July 3	8:00 am	Barbara Hosier
“	Thurs.	July 4	8:00 am	NO MASS
“	Fri.	July 5	8:00 am	Margaret Moreford
Pine Plains	“	“	12 noon	Michael Mallozzi

Amenia	Sat.	July 6	8:00 am	Fr. John L. Durkin
“	“	“	4:30 pm	Marilyn Louey

Pine Plains	Sun.	July 7	8:00 am	Michael Mallozzi
Amenia“	“	“	10:45 am	People of the Parish

“RETREAT”

Dear Friends;

The week of June 24th to 28th I was on retreat (although I am writing this before the retreat). A retreat is mandated for all diocesan priests at least once a year. I know that it is mandated, but it is something that I like to do. I very much appreciate the parish sacrificing the daily Masses during the week.

I often go, as I do this year, to a Monastery in Elmira, New York. It is a Benedictine Monastery, but not of the strict kind. It is a small monastery with perhaps 10 or so monks, and they do retreats and caring for sheep as well as carrying out the daily life of a Monk.

On retreat, I follow (roughly) the schedule of prayer of the Monastery. There is prayer at 4:45 in the morning (I don't usually go to that) and then morning prayer at 7:30. Mass is at 9 am, which I concelebrate. Then there is prayer at 12 noon, followed by lunch, which is the main meal. Afternoon prayer is at 4:30, and then dinner at 5:30. Night prayer is at 8:30, after which the monks retire to their rooms.

Prayer is mostly sung, and the retreatants are encouraged to sing along. Every day is a different set of prayers, mostly taken from the Psalms. Then there is also special feasts and days of the saints, which involve different prayers and readings.

Meals are eaten in silence. There is usually readings given during the meals and they don't take very long. Prayers are said before and after meals. The food is very good, but I must say sometimes it is not enough for my large appetite.

The Monastery in Elmira is a beautiful place, but they have challenges. They need more monks, and the monks that are there are getting older. Every religious institution in our modern world faces many problems. I ask you to pray for them (Mt. Saviour Monastery). I ask you to pray for more vocations in the Church. There is such a great need. And please help spread the word that working for God is a great and beautiful life.

Fr. Wilson

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED - The office will be closed on Thursday, July 4th, in observance of Independence Day.

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, 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 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, Robert Bartolomeo and Jennifer Boice.

MEN'S CLUB - The next Men's Club meeting will be held on Monday, July 1, 2019 at 6:45 pm in the Chapel of Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia. New Members are most welcome.

FIRST FRIDAY - We will have Rosary, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction on Friday, July 5th, 2019, at 7:30 pm in Amenia, Please consider spending a half hour with our Lord.

MANY THANKS - The flower gardens around our Churches look beautiful. Our parish is blessed to have Kathleen Metz who takes care of the flowers at Immaculate Conception Church and Joy Lynch, Jill Atherton and Ellen Petersen who tend to the flowers at St. Anthony's. I also want to thank Miriam Devine and Barbara McEnroe who put flowers by the Blessed Mother each week in Amenia. With thanks and gratitude ~ Fr. Wilson

HOW "POOR" IS YOUR SPIRIT - To be "poor in spirit" conjures up images of people who are depressed or down-hearted with little or no spiritual life. In fact, people who live this beatitude are spiritual giants fully aware of their absolute need for God and live with complete dependence upon Him. In that way, they grow stronger through their trials and personal crosses. When we live this beatitude we are most likely living the other seven, too.

Happy to live in union with God. Poor in spirit means that we depend upon God for all our needs and we are happy to live our lives joined to Him. Someone who lives in union with God knows that there is nothing the world has to offer that can compare.

Happy to be secure with God. Poor economy, bad health, loneliness, insecurity in an imperfect world can rob us of safety and happiness in the world. Yet, when we rely on God for what we need, nothing can steal the joy or happiness that He provides.

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.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, June 22-23 2019, we collected \$4,098.00 in our Regular Sunday Collection. 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: Lord, please watch over 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 who are presently serving in the Military. Please keep our servicemen and their families in your prayers.



I pledge Allegiance to the flag
of the United States of America
and to the Republic for which it stands
one nation under God, indivisible,
with Liberty and Justice for all.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO HAVE A MASS “OFFERED” FOR SOMEONE - An individual may ask a priest to offer a Mass for several reasons: for example, in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as a birthday, an anniversary, or for someone who is ill or in distress), or as is most common, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. One must never forget the infinite graces that flow from the Sacrifice of the Mass which benefit one's soul. Please keep in mind that the tradition of offering Masses for others, particularly the dead, originates in the very early Church. Inscriptions discovered on tombs in Roman catacombs of the 2nd century evidence this practice. St. Cyril of Jerusalem (d.386), in one of his many catechetical discourses, explained how at Mass both the living and dead are remembered, and how the Eucharistic Sacrifice of our Lord is of benefit to sinners, living and dead. St. Ambrose (d.397) preached, “We have loved them during life; let us not abandon them in death, until we have conducted them by our prayers into the house of the Lord.” When we face the death of someone, even a person who is not Catholic, to have a Mass offered for the repose of their soul and to offer our prayers are more beneficial and comforting than any sympathy card or bouquet of flowers. To have Mass offered on the occasion of a birthday, anniversary or special need is appropriate, beneficial and much appreciated. (*Fr. William Saunders*)