

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME September 15, 2019

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

Amenia	Mon.	Sept. 16	8:00 am	Margaret Wilcox
“	Tues.	Sept. 17	8:00 am	Albert Nolletti
“	Wed.	Sept. 18	8:00 am	Margaret Wilcox
“	Thurs.	Sept. 19	8:00 am	NO MASS
“	Fri.	Sept. 20	8:00 am	Margaret Wilcox
Pine Plains	“	“	12 noon	Elizabeth Brizzie
Amenia	Sat.	Sept. 21	8:00 am	Edith Heinsohn
“	“	“	4:30 pm	Antonia & John Sferratore and Mary, Sam & Marjorie Crodelle

Pine Plains	Sun.	Sept. 22	8:00 am	People of the Parish
Amenia	“	“	10:45 am	Kathleen Dionysius

“GRACE”

Dear Friends,

“Grace” is defined in the dictionary as “God’s loving mercy toward mankind.” A good definition, but I would elaborate by saying that grace is God’s loving power and energy extended to us when we are open to receive it, especially in the sacraments., And when we are able to receive the power of God because our life is in harmony with God’s will, we are in a “state of grace”.

Grace is obviously what we want in our life in Christ. It helps us and gives us the strength to carry on the Christian life. But I once read that life in grace is elusive. A priest said that “grace is like losing weight (or gaining it), because you don’t know it happened till after it happened.” I see that in my own life, where I often wonder where grace is, and then I look back and say, “well it was there all along!”

Another aspect of grace is that we often are skeptical of other people receiving God’s grace when we feel they don’t “deserve” it. We can imagine an example: A man lives his life careless of all moral and spiritual guidelines. He is utterly selfish, devoted to pleasure. He never goes to Church and has no concern for other people. After this life of moral depravity, he is diagnosed with a terminal illness. On his deathbed, he repents, makes a sincere confession, receives the Eucharist, and dies with the blessing of the Church.

Well you might say, “what a lucky man! He lives a life of selfish pleasure and still gets to heaven”. If we say that, we don’t understand the working of grace at all. We are like the Prodigal Son’s elder brother, looking at the forgiven brother with jealousy and bitterness.

The point is that grace is not something we merit. When we protest that it isn’t fair that those who aren’t as faithful as us are still receiving the full mercy and grace of God, we are some distance from understanding grace and living fully inside of it.

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.

AS WE FORGIVE OTHERS - We say the prayer every day: “Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.” But real forgiveness means we have to offer more than words: we have to approach it with humble hearts when we ask for our own forgiveness and when we are called to forgive others.

“Then Peter approaching asked him, “Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him? As many as seven times?”

Jesus answered,, “I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times.”

~Matthew 18:20-21 ~

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 DeLuca, 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, Jennifer Boice, Nora Miller, Allen McPeck, Diana LaCurto, Genevieve Minischetti, Jeanne Allyn, Anita Nichols, Kathleen McGuire, Loretta Heller, Scott Traver and Douglas Wilson.

VINE & BRANCHES - The winner of the 50/50 was Gerry Wilcox. The split was \$32.50. The next food distribution will be on Saturday, September 21, 2019 at 10:00 am in the gym.

NEWLY BAPTIZED - Isaiah John Takacs, son of Scott Takacs and Andrea Christensen, was baptized on Saturday September 7th, at Immaculate Conception Church. We pray that Our Lord, Jesus Christ, will look lovingly on this child watch over him and fill him with peace and joy!

VITA "LOVE IS A CHOICE" - St. Joseph-Immaculate Conception Church in Millbrook, NY will be holding a Vita meeting on Tuesday, September 24th, from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Please join them if your time permits at 6:45 pm for *Rosary for Life* in the Church. For more information, please call the Rectory at 845-677-3422.

17TH ANNUAL HEALING MASS - For cancer patients, survivors, and their families, friends and the medical community: 17th Annual Healing Mass in honor of St. Peregrine, patron saint of those with cancer, followed by a social will be held on Tuesday, September 24th at 7 pm in Mt. Alvernia Chapel in Wappingers Falls. The communal rite of the anointing of the sick will be celebrated during the Mass followed by a blessing with his relic. For directions to Mt. Alvernia Retreat Center visit www.mtalvernia.org or call (845) 297-5706.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK - School is in session and the value of the month for September is FAITH! Already back into the routine of school work coupled with extracurricular activities, our schools continue to infuse faith in all aspects of our curriculum! There are still seats available in some grades for 2019-2020 school year. Financial assistance will continue to be awarded to qualified students on a first-come, first-serve basis until the funds are exhausted. Visit www.ApplyCatholicSchoolsNY.org to submit an application today. Prospective families are encouraged to contact their school of choice to schedule a private tour at your earliest convenience or by calling our bilingual phone line 646-794-2885. All Catholic schools in our region welcome the opportunity to show you our schools in action! Don't hesitate! We look forward to welcoming your family.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE - Our Lady of Lourdes High will have Open House on Sunday, October 20th from 1 to 4 pm. Come and experience all the great things that are happening at Our Lady of Lourdes High School. We offer a rigorous College Prep curriculum that provides exciting and innovative learning experiences for our students. Join us at our Open House as we showcase teaching and learning in our "next generation" classrooms. Meet our faculty, students, coaches and club moderators, who will be on hand to greet and talk to you. Our class of 2019 have moved on to many fine institutions and have received over \$33 million in college scholarships, and 95% of these graduates earned an average of 23 college credits. If you need additional information, please contact Kathleen Powers at 845-463-0400, ext. 1009 or powers.kathleen@ollchs.org.

AARP 6 HR. DRIVER SAFETY COURSE - AARP 6 hour Driver Safety Course is being offered on Tuesday, November 5, 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 your AARP card.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, September 7-8, 2019, we collected \$5,958.00 in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$1,390.40 for the Propagation of Faith. 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.

*The Sanctuary Light which will burn this week
at Immaculate Conception Church
was donated by Katharine Dunlop
In Memory of Margaret Wilcox*