

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME September 29, 2019

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

Amenia	Mon.	Sept. 30	8:00 am	Harold J. Morford, Sr.
“	Tues.	Oct. 1	8:00 am	Mary Adamitis
“	Wed.	Oct. 2	8:00 am	Donna Whalen (Living)
“	Thurs.	Oct. 3	8:00 am	NO MASS
“	Fri.	Oct. 4	8:00 am	Barbara & Ray McEnroe
Pine Plains	“	“	12 noon	Angelina Mallozzi (Living)
Amenia	Sat.	Oct. 5	8:00 am	Jane Wells
“	“	“	4:30 pm	Diane McEnroe Martello

Pine Plains	Sun.	Oct. 6	8:00 am	People of the Parish
Amenia	“	“	10:45 am	Robert Cooper

“MARRIAGE & FAMILY”

Dear Friends,

I was privileged and happy to perform a wedding last weekend at Immaculate Conception. For a priest, a wedding is a very happy moment. Sure, there is stress and all kinds of potential problems. But there are many great opportunities in wedding celebrations to rejoice and experience the best of sacramental blessings.

But we are in a very difficult time in terms of the sacrament of matrimony. Church weddings have dropped significantly in not only New York, but throughout this country. After I was ordained, I was doing maybe 30 to 40 weddings a year. But that really changed in the ensuing years. I admit I am in a small parish, but now I am doing 2 or 3 weddings a year. And some of those aren't even here, but in other parishes. And other priests have told me that it is the same for them.

It is something the whole Church is concerned about. And I have begun to encourage young people I know to consider a Church wedding. But what is even more distressing is the state of marriage and the family today. I recently was reading an article about the biggest problems facing America and the world. The article stated the standard lists of contemporary problems: climate change, refugee crisis, and political divisions. Certainly those are important issues. But I would have to also mention the breakdown of modern marriage and the issue of family strife.

The breakdown of the family is a consistent problem in America since the 1960's. I am, myself, a "victim" of this issue, since my parents divorced when I was 15. I have heard several times that the greatest way to combat poverty in the USA is to encourage the building up of the American family. A strong and established family structure is so beneficial for everyone, especially children.

I heard recently a striking statistic about the people who committed mass shootings in recent history. I can't recall the actual statistic, but it goes something like this: 24 of the last 26 mass shooters, who were men, had no significant father figure in their life. Statistics like these prompt us to pray every day for the family.

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.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED - We are in need of Altar Servers during our Masses. Anyone in Grades 4 and up, who are interested in participating in this ministry, please contact Fr. Wilson as soon as possible so that training can be arranged. Thank you for your help.

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, 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, Jennifer Boice, Nora Miller, Allen McPeck, Diana LaCurto, Genevieve Minischetti, Anita Nichols, Kathleen McGuire, Loretta Heller, Scott Traver, Douglas Wilson, Donna Whalen and Stephen Bida.

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MEN'S CLUB - The next Men's Club meeting will be held on Monday, October 7th, at 6:45 pm in the Chapel of Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia. New members are most welcome.

VINE AND BRANCHES - Last weekend we provided food for 19 households and 67 people. Sincere thanks to all of you who donate food, purchase 50/50 tickets and volunteer at the food closet each month. We could not do it without your support. The next 50/50 drawing will be held on Thursday, October 3rd.

FIRST FRIDAY - We will have Rosary, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction on Friday, October 4th, at 7:30 pm in Amenia, Please consider spending a half hour with our Lord.

BE A WITNESS TO LIFE - Allow the Lord to work through YOU to change hearts and minds to support life as you participate in the following Life Chains. All chains will be held on Church Street, Poughkeepsie (between Market & Academy Streets).

- Sunday, October 6 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
- Sunday, October 13 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
- Sunday, October 27 - 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

A Life Chain is a peaceful, prayerful event that enables you to be a witness to the sanctity of human life by holding a sign with a pro-life message. Signs provided. No graphic or political signs. For more info, call (845) 853-6529.

A BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP - A Bereavement Support Group for loved ones of individuals who have passed from addiction is being offered beginning Monday, October 7th, from 7 – 8:15 pm, at the Dover Middle School/High School – Library Conference Room. Individuals must be 18 years or older to attend the group. This is a safe place for sharing and support without judgment or stigma. For more info contact Laura Brovich at 845-344-5565. Drop-ins are welcome.

NEWLY BAPTIZED - Ellie May Boyles, daughter of James Boyles and Danielle Murphy, was baptized on Saturday, September 14th, at Immaculate Conception Church. We pray that Our Lord, Jesus Christ, will look lovingly on this child, watch over her and fill her with peace and joy.

CROP WALK & BAKE SALE - The Crop Walk & Bake Sale in Pine Plains will be held on Sunday, October 13, 2019, at 1:30 pm till approximately 4:00 pm starting at the Lion's Club Pavilion and continuing around Stissing Lake. Apples, cookies, and water will be available to the walkers. More information will be available in the back of Church.

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.

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.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, September 21-22, 2019, we collected \$4,242.90 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.

"THE GREATEST GOOD IS WHAT WE DO FOR ONE ANOTHER"
~ Mother Teresa~