

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
February 9, 2020

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

Amenia	Mon.	Feb. 10	8:00 am	Barbara & Ray McEnroe
"	Tues.	Feb. 11	8:00 am	Katherine Blinn
"	Wed.	Feb. 12	8:00 am	Josefina Lopez
"	Thurs.	Feb. 13	8:00 am	NO MASS
"	Fri.	Feb. 14	8:00 am	Albert Nolletti
Pine Plains	"	"	12 noon	Jane Wells
Amenia	Sat.	Feb. 15	8:00 am	Dorothy Dogastine
"	"	"	4:30 pm	Kathryn Finkle & Stanton Family

Pine Plains	Sun	Feb. 16	8:00 am	Angelo & Rita Cutone
Amenia	"	"	10:45 am	People of the Parish

" MOTHER TERESA "

Dear Friends:

I just came across some reflections on Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who is now a saint. Mother Teresa presented us with different ways to pray about Jesus Christ and she inspired us to reconsider our commitment to God.

Mother Teresa told us of the "Five Finger Gospel." We count on our fingers the five words "You did it To Me." What does that mean? It means whatever you did to anyone you encounter, you did to to Jesus. It is a reminder that we are called to treat everyone – and I mean everyone – as we would treat Jesus himself.

Mother Teresa showed us that in action by dedicating herself – and her sisters – to bringing God's Love to the most vulnerable and the poorest people of India. Mother Teresa and her sisters would walk the streets looking for those dying and alone, and taking care of them.

Mother Teresa's confessor, Father Celeste Van Exem, once said about her: "The meaning of her whole life was a person: Jesus." And for her (and for us) Jesus was not an abstraction or a set of doctrines and dogmas or the remembrance of a person who lived at another time. He was the real, living Jesus who is alive and present today.

Mother Teresa knew how to give not just bread, clothes and medicine but give to the poor what they had even more need of: love, human warmth and dignity.

Mother Teresa became famous from her work with the poor, and many people wanted to give her honors, awards and rewards. None of this mattered to her. All she wanted was to know Jesus and care for Him in the "distressing disguise of the poor." As she once told her sisters In her religious order:

"Until you hear Jesus in the silence of your own heart, you will not be able to hear him saying 'I thirst' in the hearts of the poor. Never give up this daily intimate contact with Jesus as the real living person – not just the idea. How can we last even one day without hearing Jesus say "I love you"? It is impossible."

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.

*Confession is an act of honesty and courage –
an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin,
to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God.
~ Pope John Paul II ~*

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, Winifred Capowski, Arthur Nadeau, LuAnn Ballantine, Frank D'Agostino, Danny Hagerty, Sonja Kelly, Mike Butts, Erin D'Elia, Richard Piccoli, Dominic Nannetti, Santino Delfino, Ricky McGhee, John Daubman, Joseph Licurse, Joanne Balek, Michael Engel, Theresa Thompson, Linda Mary Dick, Leela Niranjana, Ralph Locantore, Fred Arni, Brandon Rojas, Leah Rost, Susan Consentino, Pat Boice, Arietta Carroll, Cecilia Cummings, Mary Wilkinson, Evelyn Tompkins, Mary Simmons, Marjorie Arni, Teal Burns, Jane Bly, Jennifer Boice, Nora Miller, Allen McPeck, Diana LaCurto, Genevieve Minischetti, Anita Nichols, Kathleen McGuire, Loretta Heller, Douglas Wilson, Donna Whalen, Stephen Bida, Leah Eurvard, Meghan King, Christine Darby, Peter Hill, Patricia Macura, Jerard Kain, Margaret and Roger Gregoire, Kyleigh Cummings, Caroline McEnroe, Kristin Paraszti, Patty Cassidy, Stephen Bida and John McKee.

+++++

ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY - The Altar Rosary Society will meet on Monday, February 10th, at 7:00 pm in the Chapel of Immaculate Conception in Amenia. New Members are most welcome.

A SHOUT OUT - I want to thank our second grade teacher, Marilyn Tyree, for preparing our 2nd graders for their First Reconciliation last Saturday and also for preparing a delicious breakfast for our students and their families. I want to thank Ken Pomeisl, our Religious Ed Coordinator and 9th grade teacher, as well as our 9th grade Confirmation Candidates for serving the 2nd graders breakfast prior to their receiving the Sacrament. This practice is a long standing tradition in our Religious Ed Program. Many thanks to all of you for a job well done!

~~~~~  
**A VALENTINE PRAYER**

*Dear Heavenly Father,*

*I want to thank you for the precious gift of love you have given to the world and to me. Thank you for blessing me every day with this love and the power and strength that I get from you every single day. Without your love for me I can't be ...I can't function...I can't even breathe...because I need your love to sustain me. It's like food and medicine for my soul, Lord.*

*Please continue to let me feel your comforting love in my life and Lord, I give myself over to you to perfect in me this gift of love...that I may be able to express it and share it with others. Lord...I have not always been good at this... forgive me. Lord...some people are harder to love than others...but I want to be like your Son Jesus...so please continue the work you are doing in my heart so my heart will be like yours. In Jesus name I pray.*

~~~~~  
THE KEYS TO HOLINESS - To many of us, prayer means using a Bible or a Rosary and committing exclusive time to God. Yet St. Paul exhorts us to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17). How can we do that and still function during the day?

Do God's Will. It can be tempting to reserve God only for prayer time or Mass time and go it alone the rest of the time. However, if we also determine to do God's will throughout the day, all that we do becomes a prayer and we "pray without ceasing."

Think Godly Thoughts. God is always with us. We can speak directly to Him whenever we want, especially when we need help or advice, or just want to talk. Of course, this continuous conversation should include praising and thanking Him and saying, "I love you." But this means rejecting thoughts that won't lead to God – resentments, grudges, or sinful thoughts. Eventually we will find that we are praying without ceasing and our prayers will be fruitful beyond our imaginings.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, February 1-2, 2020, we collected \$4,436.50 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: Timothy Walsh, Joshua O'Hara, Connor Washburn, Sam Kent, Jordan Paraszti, Gavin Carroll, Richard C. Belliveau, Jimmy Darnell, Mike Mazza, Nathan Tong, Mark Hall, Tyler Jasmin and Austin Cummings. Please keep our servicemen and their families in your prayers especially during these tumultuous times.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - If you need a copy of your financial statement for 2019, please call the office.