

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
February 16, 2020

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

Amenia	Mon.	Feb. 17	8:00 am	Richard Delgado
"	Tues.	Feb. 18	8:00 am	Katherine Blinn
"	Wed.	Feb. 19	8:00 am	Hazel R. Cogswell
"	Thurs.	Feb. 20	8:00 am	NO MASS
"	Fri.	Feb. 21	8:00 am	Isla James Colley
Pine Plains	"	"	12 noon	Elizabeth Brizzie
Amenia	Sat.	Feb. 22	8:00 am	Robert P. Cooper
"	"	"	4:30 pm	Mary Hardisty & Lawrence C. Hardisty, Jr.

Pine Plains	Sun	Feb. 23	8:00 am	People of the Parish
Amenia	"	"	10:45 am	Thomas O'Hara

" 1917 "

Dear Friends:

I was able to see the movie "1917" and was very impressed by it. It is a remarkable film, and makes you feel as if you are "there" during the war. Although it is somewhat violent, it certainly is not an argument for war – just the opposite. I thought it was one of the best films I had seen in years. I was quite surprised to see it did not win "Best Picture" at the Oscars.

I came across an interesting article by Bishop Robert Barron on the movie and the issues presented in the tragedy of World War I. The movie presented the appalling nature of the War. It was a modern nightmare for civilization, especially in Europe. It was the beginning of technological warfare, which sadly made killing possible on a large scale. It is estimated that over 40 million deaths resulted from the War.

Bishop Barron presents the War as not only a human disaster, but also a spiritual disaster. Why would that be? It is because almost all of the combatants were Christian. They were baptized people: English, French, American, Russian, and others.

The origins and politics of World War I are intricate and confusing. It is hard to see what the ultimate purpose was. As Bishop Barron puts it "What precisely were they fighting for?"

Bishop Barron analyzes the War in terms of the Church's Just War principle. He, unsurprisingly, finds that the War was not "Just."

The Bishop says "My point is that this moral catastrophe unfolded in the heart of Christian Europe, almost exclusively among baptized people, all presumably schooled in the moral principles of Jesus Christ." It is something to think about.

What does our baptism mean to us? Is it something that happened years ago and has no influence on our decisions today?

Each and every one of us probably should look at ourselves and re-evaluate the effect of our baptism in our lives. The power and love of Jesus Christ is in our hearts from our baptism. But we have to "follow through." Perhaps our parents made the decision for us to be baptized. But the important decisions are the ones we make today to live the life that Jesus Christ wants us to live.

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.

2020 CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL - By now I am sure you have received a letter from Cardinal Dolan asking for your support of the vital ministries, programs and services provided through the Appeal each year. Our parish goal for Immaculate Conception/St. Anthony's is \$42,000.00. As of February 7th, our parish has received \$5,640.00 in pledges/gifts from 16 families. We are off to a great start.

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.

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VINE & BRANCHES - The winner of the 50/50 was Ryan Sartori, The split was \$82.00. My sincere thanks to all of you who donate food and purchase 50/50 tickets for the benefit of our Food Closet.

ST. PATRICK'S POT LUCK - We are planning to have our traditional St. Patrick's "pot luck" and "bake sale" on Sunday, March 15th, from 12 noon to 2:00 pm in the gym. Please consider joining us for a pleasant afternoon with good food, good company and good music. There are sign-up sheets in the back of Church for the "Pot Luck" as well as for those willing to bake for our "Bake Sale". "Irish Step Dancers" are especially welcome. Please call the office if you can lend a hand with the bake sale, decorating, set-up or clean-up. .

LIVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS - St. John-St. Charles Parish is planning a Live Stations of the Cross presentation the evening of Friday, March 27th at St. Charles Borromeo Church. They need teen and adult volunteers to read or be a part of the visual presentation. If you are interested in helping you can register as a volunteer on their website, contact Ms. Karen at sifamilyministry@gmail.com or leave a message with Kristen at the parish office at (845) 855-5488. Hours will be logged for students in need of community service hours.

WHAT TO DO WHEN GOD FEELS DISTANT - There are times when God seems so close that we are filled with a glorious feeling of love. At other times, God can seem distant to us.

Look for a cause. Sometimes we cause distance to crop up between us without even realizing it. We may have become overly-confident of our spiritual strength and yielded to temptation. Or, we neglected prayer or Sunday Mass.

Pray your way back. Distance can lead to discouragement, but don't let that keep you from prayer. Reaching out to God is the surest way to find your way back. Enlist the help of the Saints or the Blessed Mother.

Meditate on what you know. Regularly repeat God's promises of salvation, Jesus' pledge of eternal love, memories of God's past blessings, anything that reminds you of His love. Focus on these beautiful thoughts over and over.

Seek Reconciliation. A common cause for distance is unconfessed sin. Are you weighed down by a fault or sin you are avoiding facing? Consider making a full Confession and seek the Sacrament regularly. Perform an act of penance, such as fasting, to take focus off yourself. Then you will find He has been beside you all along.

SAINTS FOR YOUTH RETREAT - March 6-8: Teens, do you imitate others that you admire when making choices? Let CYFM introduce you to some truly exemplary men and women: the saints. Suffering and obstacles affect everyone; learn how to overcome them and live meaningfully and joyfully with a deeper relationship with God. Cost \$125/pp for materials, meals and lodging; full/partial scholarships available. Register online: <http://bit.ly/20CapSaints> save \$10.00 before 2/25. Application and non-refundable \$75.00 deposit due by March 3rd. Find info/application and online registration at cyfm.org and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Flocknote: @CYFMGarrison. Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries, 781 Route 9D, P.O. Box 192, Garrison, NY (845) 424-3609.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, February 8-9, 2020, we collected \$4,024.00 in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$1,382.41 for Peter's Pence. 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.

"America you are beautiful...and blessed....The ultimate test of your greatness is the way you treat every human being, but especially the weakest and most defenseless. If you want equal justice for all and true freedom and lasting peace, then America, defend life"

~ Pope John Paul II ~