

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

March 1, 2020

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

Amenia	Mon.	March 2	8:00 am	Katherine Blinn
"	Tues.	March 3	8:00 am	Margaret Sicord
"	Wed.	March 4	8:00 am	Albert Nolletti
"	Thurs.	March 5	8:00 am	NO MASS
"	Fri.	March 6	8:00 am	Elizabeth Brizzie
Pine Plains	"	"	12 noon	Jane Wells
Amenia	Sat.	March 7	8:00 am	Sr. Francis McLean
"	"	"	4:30 pm	Mary Hardisty & Lawrence C. Hardisty, Jr.

Pine Plains	Sun	March 8	8:00 am	People of the Parish
Amenia	"	"	10:45 am	James Horn

" ECUMENISM "

Dear Friends:

Recently we were able to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at the Methodist Church in Pine Plains. This was a prayer service organized by the Pine Plains Council of Churches, of which Immaculate Conception-St. Anthony is a member.

The Pine Plains Council of Churches is an active organization with several activities during the year. It goes without saying that all of you are always invited to our celebrations. One of the services we perform during the year is offering a scholarship to a graduate of high school who is a member of our Churches. I want to emphasize again that all of you are invited to our celebrations during the year. It is a great way to live out the call of Jesus to be one as Christians.

Ever since I became Catholic in 1981, I have wanted to bring Christians together. I was baptized in the United Church of Christ, so I guess I understand more of other demoninations than the regular Catholic. After I was ordained, I was asked to serve on the New York Committee on Anglican-Catholic Dialogue. I also served as president of the Ramapo Ecumenical Council in Suffern. So I have had some experience in interfaith work.

It is difficult work. I have heard that there was a great deal of enthusiasm for interfaith work in the 1960's and 1970's. People expected changes and progress. But that didn't happen. It seemed, after a time, that the enthusiasm had run out. But that is normal in social movements. Enthusiasm comes and goes.

But we, all of us, must continue to work in harmony with our fellow believers in Christ. At the very least, we must be friends and treat each other with respect, warmth and generosity.

Fr. Wilson

RESTRICTED FUNDS – SAINT ANTHONY - As you are aware, Cardinal Timothy Dolan announced the merger of the Parishes of Immaculate Conception-St. Anthony that was effective August 1, 2015. The two parishes are now one parish. Much work has been accomplished in working towards the goal.

During the process of creating one financial account, a restricted account belonging to Saint Anthony was identified. The monies in this account are known as the *Bell Fund* There is approximately \$41,000 in this account.

After diligent research for a list of donors, we could not find any records indicating who donated these funds. Therefore, we will be running four consecutive notices in the parish bulletin to notify any parishioner of Saint Anthony, who wishes to be reimbursed for this donation. The parishioner must show proof of payment to this fund for this specific purpose no later than March 20, 2020. Thereafter, the Archdiocese of New York will petition the New York State Attorney General's Office to release these funds for use. Once released, these funds will be used to fund the pastoral and administrative activities of the merged parish.

If you donated to this fund and would like your donation returned to you, please contact Colleen Herbert at the Archdiocese of New York, colleen.herbert@archny.org or 646-794-2946 no later than March 20, 2020.

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, John McKee, Kathleen Herron and Rose Ann Roux.

MEN'S CLUB - The next Men's Club meeting will be held on Monday, March 2nd, at 6:45 pm in the Chapel of Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia. New members are most welcome.

FRIDAY ABSTINENCE - Just a reminder, that as Catholics, we are asked to abstain from eating meat and meat products on all Friday's during Lent.

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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN AMENIA - Fr. Wilson and the Men's Club will be conducting the Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 6th, at 7:30 pm at Immaculate Conception Church. Please join us for this Lenten Devotion. For your convenience, confessions will be available immediately afterwards.

BRING YOUR BIBLE, YOUR FAITH AND A LISTENING HEART- If you want to do something this Lent that will make a difference in your relationship with God, yourself and your neighbor, please consider joining the "Bible Study" given by Sr. Jean Flannelly at 3:00 pm at the Parish Center in Amenia.

FAST AND FEASTING FOR LENT

<i>Fast from Worry</i>	-	<i>Feast on Trusting God</i>
<i>Fast from Grudges</i>	-	<i>Feast on Forgiveness</i>
<i>Fast from Fear</i>	-	<i>Feast on Faith</i>
<i>Fast from Gossip</i>	-	<i>Feast on Kind Words</i>
<i>Fast from Self-Pity</i>	-	<i>Feast on Gratitude</i>
<i>Fast from Negatives</i>	-	<i>Feast on Positives.</i>

THREE PILLARS OF LENT - Fasting, Prayer and Almsgiving. St. Augustine described fasting and almsgiving as "the two wings of prayer," because they are signs of humility and charity.

ST. PATRICK'S POT LUCK -.Our traditional St. Patrick's "pot luck" and "bake sale" will be held on Sunday, March 15th, from 12 noon to 2:00 pm in the gym. If you wish to join in the festivities, please place your name on the sign-up sheets in the back of Church. We are in need of volunteers to help decorate etc. Please call the office if you are willing to lend a helping hand.

AARP 6 HR. DRIVER SAFETY COURSE - AARP 6 hour Driver Safety Course is being offered on Tuesday, April 7th, 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 Weiss between 4 to 8 pm at 845-373-8108 to register. Bring your AARP card. Upon completion you can save at least 10% on your car insurance and remove up to 4 points from your license.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, February 22-23, 2020, we collected \$3,172.16 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 and Tyler Jasmin. Please keep our servicemen and their families in your prayers