

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT March 15, 2020

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

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|--------------------|--------|----------|----------|-----------------------|
| Amenia | Mon. | March 16 | 8:00 am | Jane Bentson |
| " | Tues. | March 17 | 8:00 am | Katherine Blinn |
| " | Wed. | March 18 | 8:00 am | Richard Delgado |
| " | Thurs. | March 19 | 8:00 am | NO MASS |
| " | Fri. | March 20 | 8:00 am | Ray & Barbara McEnroe |
| Pine Plains | " | " | 12 noon | Elizabeth Brizzie |
| Amenia | Sat. | March 21 | 8:00 am | Jane Wells |
| " | " | " | 4:30 pm | Robert Hulette |
| Pine Plains | Sun | March 22 | 8:00 am | People of the Parish |
| Amenia | " | " | 10:45 am | John Cantele |

"REMEMBER HEAVEN"

Dear Friends:

We very often get caught up in our daily affairs and responsibilities. We run from here to there and there doesn't seem to be enough hours in the day to get things done. Heaven forbid if something unexpected comes along and disrupts our plans.

That's one of the purposes of Lent. Lent is a gift that allows us to change the day-to-day routine and spend time differently. Lent is there to prompt us to do things that are oriented to God, not just doing the things we always do.

Lent draws us out of our routine. Lent is also intended to get our eyes out of the mire of worldly problems and look toward heaven. Indeed all of the special seasons of the Church, among other things, are intended to help us look to heaven and the promises of eternal life.

The prayers of the Mass in Lent remind us of our focus on our eternal destiny. Consider the Communion prayer of the 2nd week of Lent:

***As we receive these glorious mysteries,
we make Thanksgiving to you, O Lord,
for allowing us while on earth
to be partakers even now of the things in heaven.***

Not only does this prayer remind us to keep our eyes focused on heaven, but the prayer shows us how the Eucharist is a taste of the eternal banquet of everlasting life.

We need help, no doubt, to keep going in this life. Heaven is not just a fantasy to help us escape from this world but it is a reality purchased for us by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

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 Roseann Roux.

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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN AMENIA - The Altar Rosary Society will be conducting the Stations of the Cross with Fr. Wilson on Friday, March 20th, at 7:30 pm at Immaculate Conception Church. Please join us for this Lenten Devotion. For your convenience, confessions will be available immediately afterwards.

MINISTRY FOR HOLY WEEK - We are in need of Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers and Ushers for the Holy Week Liturgies. Your ministry is so very important to us and especially needed during these holiest days of the Church.

TAKE UP YOUR CROSS DURING LENT – THE CROSSES OF FAMILY.
Families are full of love, laughter and a great deal of joy. Families, however, are also full of bickering, bemoaning and occasional strife. Bless me, O Lord, as I carry the crosses of family life. Heavenly Father, you know the crosses I carry in this part of my life; sustain my joy and renew my patience when it is lacking. Give me all that I need to lovingly care for the members of my family: spouse and children, parents and grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles and cousins. Let my family be a cord not quickly broken. Amen

*When my arms can't reach people who are close to my heart...
I always hug them with my prayers.*

NEWLY BAPTIZED - The following children were baptized at Immaculate Conception Church:
Henry Lionel Hernandez-Penate, Emily Alexandra Hernandez-Penate and Stephany Maria Hernandez-Penate, children of Alex Hernandez and Maria Penate were baptized on February 8th, 2020. Brooklyn Claire Preciado and Colby Allen Preciado, children of Antonio Preciado and Megan Jones were baptized on February 29, 2020. Catalina Sophia Preciado, child of Jesus Preciado and Amber Revere was baptized on February 29, 2020. Grace Caroline Preciado, Holly Jane Preciado and John Thomas Preciado, children of John Preciado and Johnna Vassak were baptized on February 29, 2020. Cheyenne Nicole Preciado and Natalie Rose Preciado, children of John Preciado and Cassie Smalley were baptized on February 29, 2020. We pray that Our Lord, Jesus Christ, will look lovingly on these children, watch over them and fill them with peace and joy!

ROSE THRIFT SHOP - The Rose Thrift Shop, located in the basement of the Immaculate Conception Church, will be open for the season on Wednesday, March 18th, from 10 am to 2 pm. The Shop will be open every Wednesday and Saturday thereafter from 10 am to 2 pm. Donations are gratefully accepted.

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, March 7-8, 2020, we collected \$3,588.10 in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$1,267.00 for Utility & Energy. 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.

2020 CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL - As of March 6th, our parish has received **\$12,145.00** in pledges/gifts from **28** families. Our parish goal is **\$42,000**. For this Appeal to be truly successful, we must have the support of all our families. I sincerely ask that you prayerfully consider making a pledge or a one-time donation in an amount you can afford. Not all offerings are equal, but all sacrifices are..

ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH - St. Anthony's is going to have a "Breakfast" after the 8 am Mass on Sunday, March 29th. All are invited.