

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME August 16, 2020

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:

Amenia	Mon.	Aug. 17	8:00 am	Bill Kain
“	Tues.	Aug. 18	8:00 am	Albert Nolletti
“	Wed.	Aug. 19	8:00 am	Douglas Wink
“	Thurs.	Aug. 20	8:00 am	NO MASS
“	Fri.	Aug. 21	8:00 am	John J. Carroll
Pine Plains	“	“	12 noon	Albert Nolletti
Amenia	Sat.	Aug. 22	8:00 am	NO MASS
“	“	“	4:30 pm	Deborah Downey
Pine Plains	“	“	6:15 pm	Laura Jean Porter
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Pine Plains	Sun	Aug. 23	8:00 am	People of the Parish
Amenia	“	“	10:45 am	Carol Ann Doran
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“NO POWER”

Dear Friends,

It was a “nightmare scenario.” The storm was coming. We all knew it. We didn’t know, of course, how bad it would be. It came on a Tuesday afternoon and it was quickly destructive.

I hardly noticed it happened. Due to heavy rain and high winds, a large tree on our property broke in half and fell harmlessly in our parking lot. Besides the many power outages, the big damage for many in our area were the trees that fell on their houses and property.

Suddenly the power was gone. I expected it to return within a few hours. But it did not. It didn’t return. The last time, I think that I experienced this was in 1997 in Fishkill. We had no power for three days.

I had it better than most as I have town water in my house. I apologize for our office being closed for obvious reasons. I have a problem with a power outage in the summer. I can’t handle the heat. No doubt that is a result of my life in the cool and temperate Rockies in Colorado. But that is my “personal problem.”

No doubt many of you had much more difficult challenges. There are businesses that had to close, and grocery stores who lost great amounts of refrigerated food. Then there are those who are restricted to home because of illness, and had to somehow manage without needed power and needed therapies.

But, you might ask, where is God in all of this? I think the first response is a kind of feeling that we have been burdened with so much (pandemic) that this is hard to deal with. A person might think “I have been struggling with the virus and now I have to deal with this terrible power outage – it is too much!”

That is an understandable response. We all have struggled with the virus and now the power outage. There are even some of our parishioners who are still without power as I write this. There is no easy answer. My heart goes out to all of you. As the saying goes, we are all in this together. I hope that at our parish that is true.

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.

If you haven’t been to Confession in a while, the Catholic Church wants to welcome you back, and invites you to participate in this beautiful sacrament of healing. Take a step in faith. You’ll be surprised about how free you feel after taking part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. So many Catholics describe incredible feelings of peace, joy, relief, and love that they never expected. Jesus is calling you to experience His mercy in this way too.

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, Winifred Capowski, Arthur Nadeau, LuAnn Ballantine, Frank D'Agostino, Sonja Kelly, Mike Butts, Erin D'Elia, Richard Piccoli, Dominic Nannetti, Santino Delfino, Ricky McGhee, John Daubman, Joseph Licurse, Joanne Balek, Michael Engel, 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, Genevieve Minischetti, Anita Nichols, Kathleen McGuire, Loretta Heller, Douglas Wilson, Donna Whalen, Stephen Bida, Leah Eurvard, Meghan King, Patricia Macura, Jerard Kain, Margaret and Roger Gregoire, Kyleigh Cummings, Caroline McEnroe, Patty Cassidy, Stephen Bida, Kathleen Herron, Michael Gaddis, Catherine DiRe, Baby Gemma Dadone, Joe Gatto, Raymond Proper, Jr., Joan Moriarty, Michael Tozzi, Daniel Briggs, Brett Porter and Alice Phillips.

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DEPARTED IN OUR PARISH: Thomas Carberry, Theresa Thompson, Christine Lombardi.

CONFIRMATION - Our 9th Grade Class will be receiving Confirmation on Saturday, August 22, 2020 at 10 am Mass at Immaculate Conception Church. Bishop Gerardo Colacicco will be confirming our students. Please keep the following young people in your prayers: Diego Abad, Jonathan Argueta, Autumn Beeman, John Bopp, III, Grace Burns, Isabella Darnell, Abigail Elliott, Aidan Furey, Jakob Galente, Lucia Iandolo, Michael Ladusch, Richard Lamping, Duncan Lazarus, MaKaelah Sedor and Matthew Mangione.

WHERE IS GOD IN THE PANDEMIC AND PROTESTS? Sr. Jean Flannely and Lisa Shay will be offering a 3-part discussion series on "How do we bring our faith to bear on contemporary issues"? over Zoom. The second session will be on Sunday, August 16th, between 4-5 pm. RSVP to Lisa.Shay@gmail.

A Parishioner requested that we print the following prayer: (Never known to fail.)

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein, you are my mother. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mother, I place this case in your hands (three times).

Holy Spirit. You who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine.

The person must say this prayer three consecutive days. After three days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.

2020 CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL - As of August 7th, our parish has received **\$30,680** in pledges/gifts from **90** families. Our parish goal is **\$42,000**. It is not too late to make a pledge or a one-time donation in an amount you can afford. Not all offerings are equal, but all sacrifices are.

SUNDAY COLLECTION - Last weekend, August 8-9, 2020, we collected \$3,751.00 in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$746.00 for the Church in Africa. I am so very thankful to all of you for our steadfast commitment to our Church during these difficult financial times. I pray that God will continue to bless you and your families with good health.

GIVE IT TO GOD - Our world is filled with pain, sorrow, and suffering. Putting our faith in worldly powers guarantees disappointment. Putting faith in God guarantees that we will never be disappointed.

*"Never forget that God loves you deeply and cares for you passionately:
'Cast all your worries upon him because He cares for you' "
(1 Peter 5:7)*