

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER May 21, 2017

**PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:**

<b>Amenia</b>	Mon.	May	22	8:00 am	Robert Carberry	
"	Tues.	May	23	8:00 am	Mother's Day Intentions	
"	Wed.	May	24	8:00 am	Karl Buffum	
<b>Pine Plains</b>	"	"		7:00 pm	Sheila & Gunther Wallenda	(Ascension)
<b>Amenia</b>	Thurs.	May	25	8:00 am	Barbara P. & Ray McEnroe	(Ascension)
"	"	"		6:00 pm	Special Intention	(Ascension)
"	Fri.	May	26	8:00 am	Kathleen Blinn	
<b>Pine Plains</b>	"	"		12 noon	Erma Maschi (Living)	
<b>Amenia</b>	Sat.	May	27	8:00 am	Margaret Sicord	
"	"	"		4:30 pm	George McGowan	
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<b>Pine Plains</b>	Sun	May	28	8:00 am	Cleto Guglielmetti	
	"	"		10:45 am	People of the Parish	

### **"OUR PRESENCE"**

*Dear Friends:*

*The other day I had a kind of "revelation." That means that something came to me as I contemplated life in our modern world. It came to me as I was walking in our parking lot. There were two occasions that prompted this reflection.*

*Both happened in a grocery store, where it seems we discover a lot of things of this world. I was walking down an aisle and a cart blocked my way. I couldn't pass. I looked at the lady who had the cart. She didn't even look at me. After a moment, I looked at her and I got no reaction. Then I moved the cart so I could get through. She didn't even look up. Completely unaffected.*

*Another time I was looking for a certain item, but the whole section was blocked by an employee and his work cart. He was texting, I assume texting personal business. I stood there and looked at him. He wouldn't look up. I waited. Then suddenly he moved the cart so I could pick up my desired item. He didn't look at me.*

*What does it mean? I thought and thought. And suddenly it came to me. As followers of Jesus Christ, we cannot give into the way of the world. And sadly, the way of the world is such that people go about their lives without acknowledging the existence of another person. Even a person who is standing right in front of them.*

*That is one key to living a real Christian life in our day-to-day world. To really acknowledge the person who is in front of us. To never refuse to acknowledge a person who is in our presence. To always reach out, in whatever simple way, to the human being who is next to us. To really acknowledge and accept their existence. To never act like there is nobody there.*

*I really feel that Jesus lived his life in this way. The Gospels are filled with his interactions: with the poor, the rich, the young and the old, with everyone. What a difference we could make if we lived our life like Him.*

*Fr. Wilson*

**2017 CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL** - To date, our parish has received **\$34,120.00** in pledges/gifts from **84** families. We are only \$7,330 short of our parish goal of \$41,500. In order to achieve our goal, we need the support of all our parish families. While I realize that not everyone is able to make a large pledge or donation, I ask that you consider making a pledge or one-time donation in an amount you can afford. No amount is too small. Thank you for your generosity.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH :** Ralph Cummings, Ann Bida, Gerhard Herron, Margaret Wilcox, Janet Stiles, Evan Ciovacco, Lydia Casey, Evelyn Bouffard, Mark Hamm, Grover Williams, Stephanie Merenda, Carol Wilson, Dawn Hazel Burrows, Rudy Eschbach, Jordana Bell, Lori DeLuca, Amanda Carneski, Baby James Ryan Farrell, Linda Sartori, Helen McGhee, Richard & Mary Ann Valinsk, Mary Murphy Adamitis, Winifred Capowski, Arthur Nadeau, Barbara Moissonnier, Nina Williams, LuAnn Ballantine, Frank D'Agostino, Michael Kain, Shirley Remsburger, Teresa Schell, Susan Moody, Danny Hagerty, Sonja Kelly, Jack Silvernale, Mike Butts and Mary Ann Mullen, Alan Carroll, Erin D-Elia, Linda Staab, Father John Durkin, Daisy Abruzzo, Richard Piccoli, Laura Galdiero, Bernard Heaney, Joseph Scutieri, Eileen Murphy Ehlers, Ann Marie Russolillo, Dominic Nannetti, Ray Proper, Sr., Santino Delfino, Joe Kain, Philomena Ketchum, Hilda Delgado and Luz Pelkey.

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**CONFIRMATION** - Our 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Class will be receiving Confirmation on Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 pm. Mass at Immaculate Conception Church. Bishop Peter Byrne will be confirming our students. All are welcome to attend this very special Mass and please remember this will also satisfy your holy day of obligation for Ascension Thursday. Please keep the following young people in your prayers: Emelin Argueta, Justin Calabrese, Jenifer Espinosa-Lopez, Holly Jasmin, Madeline Lazarus, Emily Simmons and Anthonette Syversen.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** - Vacation Bible School will be at St. Anthony's Church in Pine Plains on August 14<sup>th</sup> to August 18<sup>th</sup>, from 9 am to 12 noon. Volunteers needed. Please contact Christine Henderson at (518) 398-1248.

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**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD** - Ascension Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, is a Holy Day of Obligation. Our Mass Schedule is as follows:

**Wednesday, May 24, 2017 -- 7:00 pm Mass, St. Anthony's, Pine Plains**

**Thursday, May 25, 2017 -- 8:00 am Mass, Immaculate Conception, Amenia  
6:00 pm Mass, Immaculate Conception, Amenia (Confirmation)**

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**HEALTHY HABITS FOR HAPPY HEARTS** - Human beings are creatures of habits. We love our comfortable routines. Healthy diet and exercise practices make our bodies strong. The same is true of spiritual habits. They can strengthen our souls. The key to living a happy life is to develop healthy habits of the heart.

**Humility.** Humility is closely tied to gratitude and is the appropriate response to contemplating the greatness of God. Regular meditating on God's immense acts – creating the universe out of nothing, sacrificing himself to save us – is a sure way to appreciate his love and generosity.

**Prayer.** Happy Catholics use prayer to connect to God and gain distance from worldly preoccupations that can weigh heavily. Develop a prayer routine that helps you “pray constantly.” For example, start with a morning offering, pray a daily Rosary, perform a brief examination of conscience at night, and sit in silent prayer for at least 15 minutes.

**Trust.** No one asks for discomfort but we get into trouble when we go out of our way to avoid it. In so doing, we can put ourselves before God and others. Healthy Catholics know that there is no avoiding suffering and it can even be meaningful. Trusting that God loves us dearly and will use our suffering for good makes the suffering easier to bear.

**SUNDAY COLLECTION** - Last weekend, May 13-14, 2017, we collected \$4,040.20 in our Regular Sunday Collection and \$1,027 for Utility & Energy. I thank you for your generosity and steadfast commitment to our Church and 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 and Mark Hall. Please keep our servicemen and their families in your prayers.