

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT March 11, 2018

**PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:**

<b>Amenia</b>	Mon.	Mar. 12	8:00 am	George R. Flanigan
"	Tues.	Mar. 13	8:00 am	Amy Whitcomb
"	Wed.	Mar. 14	8:00 am	Melanie McEnroe Cipriano
"	Thurs.	Mar. 15	8:00 am	NO MASS
"	Fri.	Mar. 16	8:00 am	Lawrence C. Hardisty, Jr.
<b>Pine Plains</b>	"	"	12 noon	Rev. John Irwin
<b>Amenia</b>	Sat.	Mar. 17	8:00 am	Marcy Wolfington
"	"	"	4:30 pm	William E.P. Murphy
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<b>Pine Plains</b>	Sun	Mar. 18	8:00 am	Aldo Guglielmetti
<b>Amenia</b>	"	"	10:45 am	People of the Parish

### "CORRUPTION"

Dear Friends:

*I recently read a news article about embezzlement in the Vatican. A former president of the Vatican bank and his lawyer have been indicted for a scheme that took place between 2001 and 2008. They are indicted for losses of more than \$62 million from real estate sales.*

*The scam allegedly involved the suspects selling Vatican-owned real estate at under-value prices to off-shore companies that then resold the property at market, with the suspects allegedly profiting.*

*News like this is disturbing and discouraging, but it is nothing new. We see so much corruption everywhere, we are not surprised. We see corruption in politics and business, even with non-profits. It is more frustrating when it involves the Church, but we realize that the Church is made of people.*

*What is more discouraging is that incidents like these break down the trust that has built up over the years between the givers, the donors, and those institutions receiving those funds. This bond of trust is essential. If it breaks down, the charitable organization will eventually begin to break down. This trust, this understanding that the money goes to where it is supposed to, is the fuel that keeps the organization going.*

*The Catholic Church is a great organization, with many very holy and very good people working in it. It is a holy institution, a good institution, but it is made of human beings, and humans are sometimes weak and often tempted.*

*During Lent, I have spoken about selfishness and how it is so much a part of our sin problems. There are fewer worse examples of selfishness than some Charitable organization leaders pulling costly schemes in the millions of dollars. So often the tragic cases of stolen funds result in the perpetrators spending them on selfish typical things like luxury items, lavish vacation, illicit behavior. It is very predictable.*

*That is why we must all be very careful in taking care of the Church's finances. Everyone in the Church must keep his or her eyes open for anything that might seem out of line. The important thing is a quote that you have heard before: "If you see something, say something." We all must keep corruption out of our society.*

*Fr. Wilson*

**RECONCILIATION MONDAY** - In preparation for Easter, Reconciliation will be offered as follows:

*St. Anthony's Church  
Tuesday, March 20, 2018 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm*

*Immaculate Conception Church  
Monday, March 26, 2018 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm*

Jesus gave us a great gift when He created the Sacrament of Confession (*John 20:23*).  
Remember you are just one Confession away from coming home.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH :** 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 DeLucca, Amanda Carneski, Linda Sartori, Helen McGhee, Mary Murphy Adamitis, Winifred Capowski, Arthur Nadeau, Jeff Moissonnier, LuAnn Ballantine, Frank D'Agostino, Michael Kain, Shirley Remsburger, Susan Moody, Danny Hagerty, Sonja Kelly, Jack Silvernale, Mike Butts and Mary Ann Mullen, Alan Carroll, Erin D'Elia, Richard Piccoli, Eileen Murphy Ehlers, Dominic Nannetti, Santino Delfino, Luz Pelkey, Averie Burke, Ricky McGhee, John Daubman, Mary Fitzgerald Roth, Kathryn Garzetta, Joseph Licurse, Barb King, Delora Brooks, June Heckelman, Baby Hans Pedersen, Teresa Pelkey, Renee & Al Cobuzzi, Joanne Balek, Frances Anello, Colton Culligan, Irene Smith, Michael Engel, Theresa Thompson, Peter Bartolomeo, Robert Bartolomeo, Helen Murphy Riley and Linda Mary Dick.

**VINE & BRANCHES** - The winner of the 50/50 was Frank Foley. The split was \$28.00. The next food distribution will be held on Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, at 10 am in our gym. All food donations are much appreciated.

**ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY** - The Altar Rosary Society will meet on **Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 pm in the Chapel of Immaculate Conception instead of Monday the 12<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN PINE PLAINS** - We will have the Stations of the Cross at St. Anthony's Church on Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 pm. Confessions will be heard afterward.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN AMENIA** - Fr. Wilson will be conducting the Stations of the Cross with the Altar Rosary Society on Friday, March 16, 2018 at 7:30 pm at Immaculate Conception Church. Please join us for this Lenten Devotion. For your convenience, confessions will be available immediately afterwards.

**FRIDAY ABSTINENCE** – Just a reminder, that as Catholics, we are asked to abstain from eating meat and meat products on all Fridays during Lent.

**A LENTEN OPPORTUNITY** - Please join us for the Fifth and final week of the Gospel of Mark presented by Sr. Jean Flannelly which will be held at St. Anthony's on Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 am to 11:30 am and at Immaculate Conception on Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, from 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm.

**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.

**NEWLY BAPTIZED** - Declan Jordan Bell, son of Jordana & Jared Bell, was baptized on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia. We pray that Our Lord, Jesus Christ, will look lovingly on this child; watch over him and fill him with peace and joy.

**ST. PATRICK'S POT LUCK** - If you plan on attending our St. Patrick's "pot luck" on Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, in the gym, please place your name on the sign-up sheet as we must set up tables etc.

**SUNDAY COLLECTION** - Last weekend, March 3-4, 2018, we collected \$3,902.60 in our Regular Sunday Collection, \$1, 020.54 for Periodic Literature.. I thank you for your generosity and steadfast commitment to our Church. I pray that God will continue to bless you and your families.

**WHY DO CATHOLICS BELIEVE IN THE "REAL PRESENCE"?** - We believe that Jesus is really, truly, and substantially present in the Eucharist because we have it on divine authority. Referring to the Eucharist, Jesus told his disciples, "*whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life*" (John 6:54). Jesus makes this promise to us every time we receive the Eucharist at Mass. When the priest, acting in the person of Christ, consecrates the bread and wine, Jesus becomes really and truly present, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity.

**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, Michael Pomeisl and Tyler Jasmin. Please keep our servicemen and their families in your prayers.

*The Sanctuary Light which will burn this week  
at Immaculate Conception Church  
was donated by Linda Meere  
In Memory of Bridget Thrapp*