

**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER**  
**April 22, 2018**

**PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR:**

<b>Amenia</b>	Mon.	April 23	8:00 am	Douglas Wink
"	Tues.	April 24	8:00 am	Ralph Vinchiarello
"	Wed.	April 25	8:00 am	Alfonso Scutieri
"	Thurs.	April 26	8:00 am	NO MASS
"	Fri.	April 27	8:00 am	William McEnroe & Teresita Fay
<b>Pine Plains</b>	"	"	12 noon	Ugo Maschi
<b>Amenia</b>	Sat.	April 28	8:00 am	Ethel Wilson
"	"	"	4:30 pm	Lawrence C. Hardisty, Jr.
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<b>Pine Plains</b>	Sun	April 29	8:00 am	Alice Filippini
<b>Amenia</b>	"	"	10:45 am	People of the Parish

**"THE LAMB OF SACRIFICE"**

***By the oblation of His Body  
He brought the sacrifices  
of old to fulfillment***

***In the reality of the Cross  
and, by commending Himself  
to you for our salvation  
showed Himself the Priest,  
the Altar and the  
Lamb of Sacrifice***

*This is taken from the fifth Eucharistic preface for the Easter season. So many times our prayers at Mass tell us fundamental aspects of our faith and our theology.*

*Last week in my letter, I noted that the people of Israel were commanded by God, in the early times to perform animal sacrifices and other "burnt offerings" at the altar in order to please God and atone for the sins of the people.*

*Over time the Jews began to see that good deeds were as important as ritual sacrifices. The prophets of the Old Testament began to help the Jews to understand that helping orphans and widows can help to atone for the sins of Israel.*

*Then, of course, along came Jesus, which for Christians, was the moment that everything changed. Here was the Messiah Jesus talking about service and healing the sick and performing miracles.*

*With His history-changing death on the cross, Jesus Christ was now the ultimate and final sacrifice. No other animal sacrifices or burnt offerings were needed.*

*As we see in the prayer above, Jesus brought the sacrifices of old to fulfillment. By the "reality of the cross" He showed Himself the Priest, the Altar, and the Lamb of Sacrifice. His giving of Himself on the cross, His complete offering of His life, gave all humanity the freedom from sin and death.*

*As Jesus offered Himself completely to us, we are called to offer our self completely to Him. That is our vocation. Each one of us is called to offer our life to Jesus in a loving act of life-giving sacrifice.*

*Fr. Wilson*

**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, 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, Kathryn Garzetta, Joseph Licurse, Delora Brooks, June Heckelman, Baby Hans Pedersen, Teresa Pelkey, Renee & Al Cobuzzi, Joanne Balek, Frances Anello, Colton Culligan, Irene Smith, Michael Engel, Theresa Thompson, Robert Bartolomeo, Helen Murphy Riley, Linda Mary Dick, Leela Niranjana, Lisa Missailidis and for Mary Fitzgerald Roth in thanksgiving for a cure.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** - Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades will be receiving the Holy Eucharist for the very first time in Immaculate Conception Church at the 10:00 am Mass on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. Please keep these children in your prayers: ***Emily Arnold, Albert Bailey, Alfred Blackburn, Emily Booth, Joseph Cruise, Anthony Della Rossa, Roselyn Jardinas-Ballinas, Raegan Palladino, Dominique Polverari, Daniel Polverari, Isabelle Reyes, Nathan Runge, Thomas Sanchirico and Julia Villano.*** As you receive communion, Jesus shares His love with you in a very special way. May He guide and bless you today and every day.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION for 2018-2019** - Please try and register your children in our Religious Education Program for next year (beginning in September) as soon as possible. All children must be registered by May 6<sup>th</sup>, as the books must be ordered by May 31<sup>st</sup>. Our program helps parents pass on the Catholic Faith to their children. You may either mail or drop off your registration form to the parish office. If your child is entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade in September, please call the office at 373-8193 and we will mail the registration form to you. Our program meets on Sunday mornings from 9:15 am to 10:30 am

**WHAT DOES THE RESURRECTION MEAN FOR US?** Jesus' Resurrection – the most important event in human history – is how we know that what He said and did while on Earth is true and His promises to us are trustworthy.

During His public ministry, Jesus spoke and acted as God. He promised that if we follow Him, we will have eternal life. Either He was God and had the power to make it true, or He was a mere man claiming to be someone He wasn't.

That Jesus rose from the dead – a fact verified by more than 500 eyewitness accounts – means that His word can be trusted. He warned of the specifics of His own death, predicted His Resurrection, and proved that He really is God. Therefore, His promises of eternal life are real, too.

The Resurrection gives us hope. "By His death, Christ liberates us from sin; by His Resurrection, He opens for us the way to a new Life" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church #654*). All those who die in God's friendship will live with Him forever.

**CONFESSION** - Confession is available every Saturday afternoon from 3:45 pm to 4:15 pm at Immaculate Conception in Amenia.

**PPCC SCHOLARSHIP** - The Pine Plains Council of Churches will award a scholarship to Graduating Seniors from Stissing Mt. High School or a graduating student who attends one of the Council Churches. Applications are available from Council Pastors and Stissing Mt. Guidance Office. All applications must be returned by May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**SUNDAY COLLECTION** - Last weekend, April 14-15, 2018, we collected \$4,322.00 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.

**MOTHER'S DAY CARDS** - Mother's Day cards for the living and deceased are available at the entrance of the Church. You may leave your donation in the collection basket or at the parish office.

*The Sanctuary Light which will burn this week  
at Immaculate Conception Church  
was donated by Susan Vinchiarello  
In Memory of Ralph Vinchiarello*